

CONVENTION NUMBER

OCTOBER 10, 1924

The
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L **LEGION** *Weekly*

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a Copy



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The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly

CONTENTS
Vol. 6 No. 41

OCTOBER 10, 1924

Cover Design

By Herman J. Berlowitz

Commander's Statement..... 5

James A. Drain, All-American 6

The New Commander: Portrait 7

Gopherdom Keeps Open House 8

As the Record Was Written.... 10

Keynote Legion Policies 10

Editorials..... 12

Convention in Session: Photograph..... 13

Convention Casualties 14
By Wallgren

The Things That Count..... 15
By Frederick Palmer

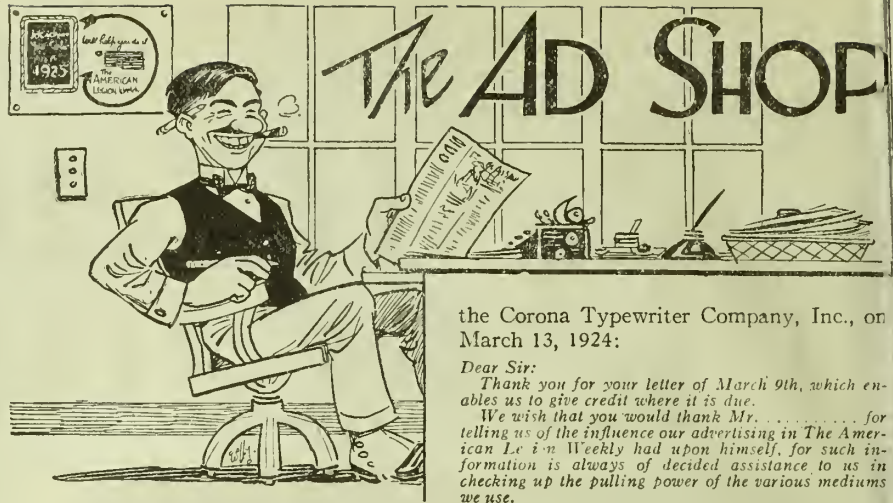
The 40 and 8 Has Come to Stay 16

For a World-Wide Auxiliary.... 17

NEXT WEEK

The Attempt Against the Troopship

By C. E. Russell.



the Corona Typewriter Company, Inc., on March 13, 1924:

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of March 9th, which enables us to give credit where it is due.

We wish that you would thank Mr. ... for telling us of the influence our advertising in The American Legion Weekly had upon himself, for such information is always of decided assistance to us in checking up the pulling power of the various mediums we use.

We have always devoted as large a portion of our appropriation as was considered advisable to The American Legion Weekly and have found it to be a very attractive medium. You may rest assured, therefore, that we shall continue to use its pages and as conditions warrant it, increase our number of insertions in that admirable Weekly.

Very truly yours,

Corona Typewriter Co., Inc.,
(signature)
Ass't Publicity Manager.

With reader cooperation such as this, is it any wonder that Harold McD. Brown, Publicity Manager of Corona Typewriter Company, Inc., wrote us last July in this manner?

Mr. Gordon Hoge,
The American Legion
Weekly,
627 West 43d Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Hoge:
So many people have asked me pertinent questions about our advertising in The American Legion Weekly that I think I may as well give you the answer and make one postage stamp carry the whole load.

I believe it is generally admitted that readers of The American Legion Weekly are responsive. But a general suspicion seems to exist (and I admit it existed in my mind) that through loyalty to their official publication many Legionnaires write to advertisers—just to help the cause.

Probably none of your advertisers was more cautious about testing out The Weekly than I; but after a couple of years of testing, I am compelled to admit that, regardless of why Legionnaires answer Corona advertisements,

enough inquiries were "sold" in 1923 to give The American Legion Weekly first place among the weeklies on our list in cost per sale as well as cost per inquiry.

That's the only reason why I am giving you more space this year than I did last.

Cordially yours,
(signed) Harold McD. Brown,
Publicity Manager.

The American Legion Weekly has reader interest, reader support and reader cooperation. All of us are at the buying age and manufacturers who place their advertisements in our magazine are insured of inculcating purchasing habits that will continue over the next quarter of a century.

But remember—keep up the good work and "sound off" when you buy Advertised-in-the-Weekly products.

(signed) Buddy
THE AD-MAN

In our promotion campaign this month, we are using as an advertisement, a testimonial letter from the Corona Typewriter Company, Inc., of Groton, N. Y.

We never would have received such an excellent endorsement from them, if it had not been for the wonderful cooperation on the part of the readers of The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly.

To demonstrate to you, just what this cooperation means to your magazine, we are printing a few letters that are self-explanatory.

On March 10, 1924, we received this letter from one of our readers in Danbury, Connecticut:

Dear Buddy:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I addressed to the Corona Typewriter Company, Inc., Groton, N. Y., and also a copy of a letter which I asked their local representative to write to their advertising manager.

Trusting that these letters may prove of some small aid to you in your very effective efforts on behalf of The American Legion, I am,

Yours for a bigger and better Weekly,
(signature).

This is the letter our reader addressed to the Corona Typewriter Company, Inc., on February 14, 1924:

Gentlemen:

This letter was written on my new Corona which I purchased from the ... Typewriter Exchange of this city after reading your advertisement in The American Legion Weekly issued January 25, 1924.

I had almost decided on a machine of a different make but your ad caused me to inquire about the new Corona and I surely am glad that I did. I shall tell all my friends that it is the cleverest writing machine that I have seen and to say that I am well pleased with it is putting it mildly.

Yours truly, (signature).

This is what the dealer in Danbury, Connecticut, wrote to the Advertising Manager of the Corona Typewriter Company, Inc., March 9, 1924:

My dear Sir:

Mr. ... of this city has purchased Corona 561,473 as a direct result of your advertising in The American Legion Weekly.

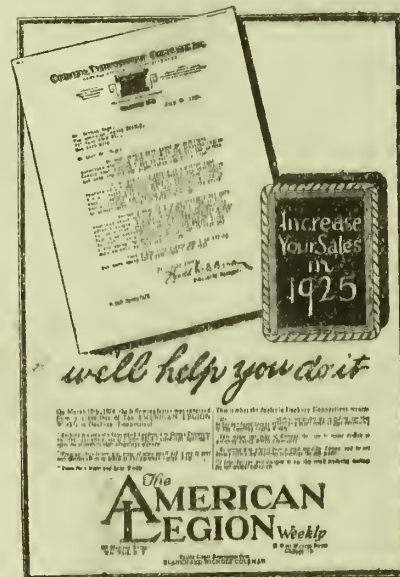
This means two sales of Coronas that can be traced directly to American Legion Weekly advertising.

Ex-service men always have a good word for Corona, and we are having quite a few inquiries concerning the new model.

I hope that you will continue to use this result-producing medium for our mutual advantage.

Respectfully yours, (signature).

The following letter was sent in reply from



331 Madison Ave.
New York, N. Y.



“and Norah says
if it isn’t **JELLO** she’ll send it
right straight back!”

America's most famous dessert

A button for every coat!

The American Legion Emblem has come to be recognized as a badge of honor. To the general public it marks its wearer as a loyal American citizen—a man worth knowing. It identifies you to other ex-service men—your former buddies—and it will help you to make new friends every day.

The purchase of a solid gold American Legion membership button is a real investment. They are guaranteed forever! Get a button for every coat and learn first hand of the real satisfaction and pleasure that comes of constantly wearing The American Legion insignia.

MAIL TO-DAY

Emblem Division, The American Legion, Indianapolis, Indiana

Gentlemen: Please send me at your risk one solid gold American Legion membership button as checked at the left. I will pay postman \$..... (plus a few cents postage) in full payment. It is understood, however, that if I am not fully satisfied that my money will be refunded promptly upon return of the insignia.



MIDGET



REGULATION

10K Solid Gold..\$1.50 Each	\$2.50 Each
14K Solid Gold.. 2.00 Each	3.50 Each

Note: Bronze or silver centers optional at above prices

Name

Street

City

State

I belong to Post No.....



BUSINESS AND EDITORIAL OFFICES
627 West 43d Street, New York City

OCTOBER 10, 1924

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PAGE 5

IF WE STAND FAST *for* GOD *and* COUNTRY OUR WEIGHT WILL BALANCE *the* WORLD

¶ MEN and WOMEN of the LEGION:

¶ For God and country, without partisanship in politics and without intolerance in religion, to give the Legion a common-sense, business-like administration—in short, to translate into peacetime activity the spirit which moved us in war—such shall be my policy as your National Commander.

¶ I thank you for this mark of your confidence. Your election of me to be your National Commander shows that you believe in me. My acceptance of the office proves that I believe in you. Our membership in this order is conclusive evidence that we believe in The American Legion.

¶ We were in the military forces during the war to protect our country and to help make this a better world. We are in The American Legion in peace for the same reasons. The American Legion exists to make better citizens, and thus a better country and a better world.

¶ As members of the American military forces in war we were thinking in unselfish terms. As members of The American Legion in peace we are thinking in unselfish terms—thinking of what we can give and not what we can get.

¶ I know what you want of me. You wish me to stand in everything I do for and with you in the rehabilitation of our disabled comrades, in the care of our comrades' orphans, and in all that we undertake, firmly for God and country. You and I know that if, with true public spirit—without partisanship in politics and without intolerance in religion—we stand fast for God and country our weight will balance the world. With the help of God and you, my comrades, I pledge my best to make this good dream come true.

JAMES A. DRAIN

NATIONAL COMMANDER

James A. Drain, All-American

ON the twenty-ninth of September, 1900—the day before his thirtieth birthday—James A. Drain, ex-farmhand, ex-railroad man, ex-insurance salesman, and at that moment law student and clerk of the superior court at Spokane, Washington—rode a bicycle into the country to train a setter pup to start quail.

The events of that day contributed nothing to the education of the setter pup. They contributed everything to the education of James A. Drain. They changed the course of his life—and of the lives of many others whose affairs have been shaped differently from what they might have been by the activities of J. A. Drain. As a trivial case in point, the events of that day's shooting have altered, for the moment, the occupation of the writer of these lines, who begs leave to chronicle that James A. Drain, and not someone else, is the ninth National Commander of The American Legion.

On the day Mr. Drain went out to work his dog on quail he shot his right hand off.

Seventeen years later a one-armed man in uniform walked up the gang-plank of a transport at Hoboken. It was Major Drain, ordnance officer of the First Division, first to go and first to fight in a conflict Drain had prophesied before 1914 and had urged his country to prepare for. The major paused on the gangway and reverently uttered this prayer:

"Now I can truly say that I thank God for the day that I lost my arm!"

Seventeen years before in a hospital in Spokane he had vowed that the day should come when he could repeat those words and know in his heart that he did not deceive himself.

Drain was never without ambition. As a boy on his father's farm in Illinois, where he did a man's work when he was twelve, he read Plutarch's lives of the great men of Greece and Rome and dreamed great dreams. With an arm gone he methodically increased the dimensions of those aspirations. It was one means of getting his mind off himself and lessening the peril of becoming a self-pitier.

DURING the succeeding seventeen years the man Drain had put his remaining left hand to a multitude of things. He had translated an amazing number of those plowboy visions into actualities. He had achieved what is generally regarded as a success of life. He had mastered the law without the aid of a day in a law school and had become one of the leading attorneys in active practice in Washington, D. C. He had made a satisfactory fortune and a name—and had held on to both. He had become a factor—though for the most part, and by his own choosing, an unseen factor—in our national affairs at the capital. He had been the confidant of Presidents. He had the internal satisfaction of knowing that he had initiated and largely brought about sweeping reforms in our policy of national defense which were to contribute helpfully to the decisive rôle America was destined to play in the World War.

The Career of the New National Commander

Yet these things seemed small potatoes beside the fact that, despite the loss of a right arm, despite his forty-seven years of age, here on the gang-plank stood Jim Drain, in the ranks of the first American combat division to go to France. The fact that he had relinquished a high and high-sounding executive position with the War Department in favor of the simple rank of major—the same rank he had held nineteen years before in the Spanish War—was smaller potatoes yet. Given the mental qualifications, any one-armed man could hold down a desk in Washington. But any one-armed man couldn't go over with the First Division. There was the challenge! And nothing in life which may be had for the asking, nothing which does not hold its challenge, can greatly intrigue Jim Drain.

"THE loss of this hand was the making of me. I set out to show my wife and children I wasn't done for. I put so much heart into the effort that I showed myself I wasn't done for."

Drain bites off his words as Roosevelt used to do—and Drain and the elder Roosevelt, by the way, were great friends. A year or so after he had lost his hand Drain made his first trip to the capital on some National Guard business. Failing to get his point over with the Army people, he thought he could put it up to the President, who was Mr. Roosevelt. At the White House the visitor learned that the President had gone to Oyster Bay for the summer. Drain wrote him a letter there.

Drain already had a sort of corresponding acquaintance with Roosevelt. He had once seen something the Colonel had written in a magazine about bear shooting. Drain had shot a good deal of bear himself, and had been charged by a grizzly, a circumstance which, it appears, admits one without further comment to the inner councils of bearshooters. Anyhow, Drain wrote Roosevelt about it and Roosevelt wrote back, and so they corresponded at times, but never, up to this time, had they corresponded on state matters.

The President replied to Drain's request for an official interview with an invitation to lunch at Oyster Bay. Drain went—and stayed two days. The two men struck fire at once. The result was a friendship which lasted until Roosevelt's death—and a complete reorganization of the National Guard of the United States. All of which, however, is getting too much of a running start ahead of our story.

The Drains are of Scotch and English and Irish and Holland Dutch ancestry and they came from Maryland and Virginia, mostly, for generations back. Some of them helped to shove

the frontiers westward into Kentucky and thence to Illinois, where Jim was born, on a farm in Warren county, in 1870. His parents were poor, and worked hard. Jim got little schooling. A few months in the dead of winter when the farm work was out of the way usually was the best he could do. He finished a country school, and went to a high school for a while, but did not graduate. His formal education was over by the time he was sixteen years old.

But long before that Jim had developed into an omnivorous reader. He ploughed through Plutarch's lives—read and reread the whole five books of those classic biographies until Solon and Pericles, Aristides and Marcus Cato, Cicero and the Gracchi were as real and personable to young Jim as were James G. Blaine, Roscoe Conkling and Rutherford B. Hayes. On rainy days and Sunday afternoons he used to sprawl on his cot in the attic and absorb, volume by volume, the historical chronicles of Gibbon and Macaulay of the majestically rolling phrase. At sixteen dreams got the upper hand of Jim. He left home. He was without money, without prospects, without plans. But he was determined upon this: he would become a lawyer.

The Drain family previously had moved westward into Nebraska. Going it on his own, Jim found work as a car checker on the night shift in the Burlington railroad yards in Lincoln. Later on he became a bookkeeper in a bank and then an insurance salesman. By self-study he had taught himself accountancy, and saved up enough to open an office in Spokane, Washington. Before his twenty-first birthday he returned to Lincoln and married Ethel Marsland there and took her out to Spokane to live. He had begun to read law by now. In 1899 he was elected clerk of the superior court at Spokane. This gave him access to three courts—a great help toward his cherished career at the bar. Things were going fine. Then, on the morning of September 29, 1900, Drain set out on his bicycle to train the setter pup.

ABOUT twelve miles from town he knew a place where he thought he could start some quail. Leaving his wheel at a farmhouse, he took his gun, a twelve-gauge, double-barreled hammerless, and struck across a field with the dog. Going down a gully his foot caught on a root. He lost his balance and fell. There was an explosion. Drain recovered from a daze to find his right hand boiling blood.

One of two things happen to men in a pinch like this. Either they go to pieces completely, or they become supermen while their strength holds out.

"I must stop this bleeding or die. I must stop this bleeding or die." Drain repeated this sentence over and over. He forced his stunned mind to grasp it, and to act.

By the veriest chance Drain had in his pocket the strap with which he had bound his gun to the frame of his bicycle. He had brought it with him

(Continued on page 18)



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JAMES A. DRAIN

National Commander of The American Legion

Gopherdom Keeps Open House

IT goes without saying that Legionnaires everywhere were fortified with a good many particulars concerning that Gopher Gang before ever they went to Saint Paul. That Gopher Gang—the phrase is theirs, and if memory serves the Minnesotans brought it with them when they came storming down on the Second National Convention of The American Legion which met in Cleveland four years ago—that Gopher Gang had been reporting in person at national conventions right along, exuding an atmosphere of pride over the circumstance that there is a strain of gopher in this Legion as a whole.

Is not the indisputably Gopher town of Minneapolis the official birthplace of the Legion? At a caucus in Paris the Legion was a dream. At another caucus in St. Louis it was a project, an experiment. At the First National Convention at Minneapolis in November of 1919 it became an accomplished fact. There the spokesmen of the ex-service electorate met at an apprehensive juncture in our country's history. It was announced that they would speak the voice of a vast body of men recently returned to a country strangely altered since they had left it. What would they say? What would they do? Would their effort amount to much or little?

THE Legion spoke at Minneapolis, proclaiming a program of fidelity and service to community, state and nation which electrified the land. There rose the Legion "like a flaming evangel," as one contemporary writer put it. The directness and spirit with which the new Legion registered its pledge of resolute and unselfish service caught the imagination of the country, which at that moment seemed tramping forward into an uncertain future.

That these noteworthy events should have transpired on the soil of Minnesota did not fail to impress our friends the Minnesotans. Traveling about the country to succeeding conventions of the Legion that Gopher Gang has held its head high. It vowed to take the Legion back home, and it did. It brought it back to the very Twin Cities whence it began its journey. Officially that first meeting was in Minneapolis, the westernmost of the Twins, astride the Mississippi at the Falls of Saint Anthony, but hospitable Saint Paul did its share. To balance accounts this year the Legion went officially to Saint Paul, and Minneapolis graciously assumed the rôle of collaborating hostess. Again there were two cities, two open-handed and hospitable cities, at the Legion's command instead of one.

There are two aspects to a Legion convention which make such a convention a sight which men and women are ready to come half way around the world to see, to partake of, to enjoy. A Legion convention is one of the greatest shows on earth, one of the finest frolics. A Legion convention is an example of the principle of democratic government in motion. A million men and women who have served their country send their thousand-odd delegates

The Spectacle of the Sixth National Convention

to confer seriously with one another about matters calculated to enhance the common weal of a nation they have fought to defend. With no axe to grind, no favors to ask, these picked delegates work hard, spending their own time and their own money to present to the nation the thought of their constituents. They form the greatest deliberative assembly of similar character in the world, an assembly which has influenced materially our progress as a nation since the war.

So it was at Saint Paul.

Fifty thousand people came, guests of the Gopher Gang. Montana was there—the Powder River boys with their Powder River yell which has added zest to Legion conclaves since Minneapolis days. The Department of France, sowing a pleasant propaganda in favor of a national convention in Paris in 1928. Texas, with her old gray mare of fable, song and story—the actual animal which mascotted the Lone Star contingent at San Francisco a year ago. Whoever rides the old gray mare is a heroine in advance. Last year at San Francisco it was Miss Ruby Lathem. Miss Ruby is married now. This year the reins were in the hands of Mrs. May Peterson Thompson of Amarillo, who can sing as well as she can ride. Her dramatic rendition of "Dixie" all but stampeded the delegates for Fort Worth as the 1925 convention city after Omaha had been named as the choice of the convention committee which had the matter in charge. Omaha had its singers, too, and came back song for song, or maybe Mrs. Thompson would have got away with it.

WISCONSIN goes in for music, too—though largely instrumental. The neighboring commonwealth invaded Saint Paul four thousand strong with sixteen bands and drum corps, which by conservative estimate brought the grand convention total of bands and drum corps up to a couple of hundred. There is nothing like a band to set a crowd going. At Saint Paul the bands were going twenty-four hours out of a possible twenty-four, and so were the crowds. The colorful carnival never ceased. Hotel lobbies and downtown streets were as lively at three in the morning as at three in the afternoon. Folks danced in the streets and the lobbies. They tripped the light fantastic on the sidewalks of Saint Paul until the flagstones were worn thin in spots. They paraded and sang and waded through confetti blizzards. There seemed to be more girls, pretty girls, than at any convention yet. And the Florida girls wore the fetchingest yellow straw hats.

John Quinn's Californians came with

chaps and red shirts on and the Oklahomans in their traditional feathered headgear. Ioway—Chevalier MacNider's own—cut a mighty wide swath, as is its custom. The tall corn waved in triumph, and none the less triumphantly waved the Florida palm grove which her people transported and transplanted in a Saint Paul park. Florida's team of colored minstrel men—two old-time Southern darkies in battered high hats—gave the throngs a new air which, next to "Omaha," came pretty near being the official convention song:

How in the world can the old folks tell
It ain't goin' to rain no more.

After following these troubadours around for the greater part of an evening and listening attentively to sixty-eight verses, your correspondent must report that the question is still an open one.

THERE were three formal parades—the main parade, in which the delegations passed in review before National Commander Quinn, the stunt pageant of the Forty and Eight, and the Horse and Buggy parade, a special affair put on by the Saint Paul people with incidental Legion help from everywhere. Thirty thousand marched in the big parade, which Mr. Quinn headed in red-shirt California garb, riding a cow pony and escorted by a company of cowboys. Five hundred thousand men, women and children banked the line of march.

Aviators swung overhead, up and down the moving columns. A certain number of Florida's pretty girls turned out in bathing suits—though it didn't rain, as it had looked as if it might. Mexico had a float with dark-eyed señoritas on it. The South Dakotans led a coyote. Alvin Owsley, under a five-gallon hat, rode with the Texans. Hanford MacNider marched with Iowa, and Franklin D'Olier with the Pennsylvania delegation. Charles G. Dawes made the trip on foot with Evanston (Illinois) Post, of which he is a member. A Wyoming marcher displayed a teapot on the end of a cane. The Californians had a black bear. The Regulars turned out from Fort Snelling. Group after group of massed flags brought the spectators in the stands to their feet. It was an impressive and an exhilarating sight—like every Legion national convention parade.

One hundred thousand people went to the state fair grounds one night and saw the Battle of Château-Thierry reproduced in fireworks. But before the battle began Miss Ruth Blanche Masters of Truman, Minnesota, and Erling Maine, adjutant of Winnebago (Minnesota) Post appeared upon a platform in full view of this great audience, and while powerful searchlights beat down upon them, were united in marriage. Eighteen Legion chaplains officiated. Mayor Nelson of Saint Paul gave away the bride. Fifty bands played. The wedding march, fitly enough, was "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here."

So much for an observation here and there of the lighter side of the convention. The serious side was no less en-

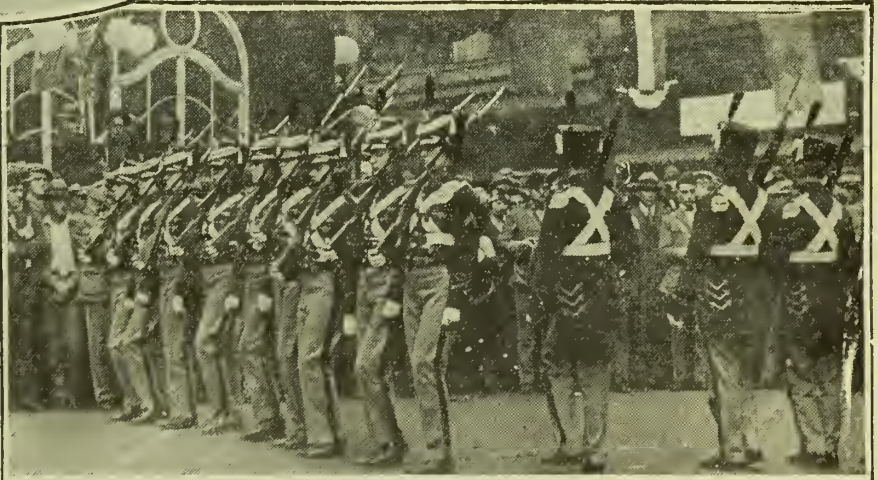


The massed colors of Legiondom—Wisconsin's standard bearers in the parade



This silent traffic cop in front of the Hotel Saint Paul was the geographical center of the convention. Incidentally it was about the only silent thing in the neighborhood

gaging. Through the long night hours in a dozen committee rooms the delegates worked out their reports. In spirited sessions on the floor of the vast convention hall the work of these committees was considered and debated. A year of significant accomplishment marked the span from San Francisco last fall. A program of continued achievement was laid out for the future. While the convention was in session word came from London that a Legionnaire, Thomas W. Miller of Delaware, one of the men who helped to make the Legion at Minneapolis in 1919 and before, had been elected to the presidency of the Inter-Allied Veterans Federation. Plainly, this Legion is getting somewhere. Greetings to the convention came from all over the world.



The girls' drill team of Hastings, Nebraska, maintained as straight a rank as any unit in the procession. As at San Francisco in 1923, the crowds along the line of march gave them an enthusiastic reception, and their picturesque uniforms were one of the high lights of the occasion. And just to prove that they really knew something about drill, they went out to Fort Snelling one afternoon and showed the Regulars there some of their stunts

As the Record Was Written

THE casual visitor to an American Legion National Convention city—and this is true of Saint Paul—seeing the streets beflagged and the crowds in carnival spirit, is apt to ask what it is all about. Apparently everybody attending the convention is seeking a good time and finding it. Even in the convention hall itself the casual visitor might be misled were he to attend some of the earlier sessions, in which ceremonies and addresses of welcome and addresses by distinguished guests and representatives of other organizations and presentations of trophies give character to the sessions.

What the casual visitor does not see is the remote halls and assembly rooms in which the dozen or more committees of the convention, each composed of representatives of many States, are busily working night and day during the first few days while the streets are filled with the carnival crowds. These convention committees begin their sessions only a few hours after the opening gavel falls. They receive the annual reports and recommendations made by the Legion's standing national committees dealing with special subjects. They study these reports and recommendations, calling in when necessary the best-informed experts on matters under consideration.

In the committee rooms take place

What the Saint Paul Convention Accomplished

dozens of debates on subjects which never reach the floor of the convention. In these rooms are molded Legion policies for a new year.

As it finishes its labors each committee sends to the convention proper a report which is read. That report is the condensation of all the most important matters which have come before the committee. It usually incorporates a series of recommendations for the decision of the convention. If the convention accepts the committee's report without debate, its recommendations are automatically adopted and all the agencies of the organization thereby receive a mandate to put them into effect. The convention, of course, may reject all or any part of the recommendations made by any committee, and each convention produces debates from the floor when delegates take exception to recommendations made.

The National Commander presides at each convention session and ordinarily

is the referee during the parliamentary battles which are fought when differences of opinion on courses of action or questions of general policy bring on debate. When a debate does break on the floor of the convention, its participants are certain to be Legion leaders of exceptional oratorical powers—none but the giants can hope to tilt an oratorical lance here, and it is no place for one who thinks slowly and speaks haltingly.

The principal convention committees at Saint Paul were those on Rehabilitation, Legislation, Resolutions, Americanism, Children's Welfare, Military Affairs, Naval Affairs, Aeronautics, Finance, Time and Place of Next Convention and Internal Organization. It was the reports of these committees, in the form in which they were ratified by the convention, which composed the greater part of the convention's business. Under appropriate headings hereafter are given summaries of the most important actions of the convention.

UNIVERSAL SERVICE

THE convention renewed its demand for the elimination of the slacker and the profiteer from the war-time scheme of things by urging the enact-

KEYNOTE LEGION POLICIES

THE Sixth National Convention of The American Legion at Saint Paul took these outstanding actions:

Voted that the Legion should make one of its principal aims during the following year the enactment of a universal draft law, under which capital and labor and all material resources would be subject in time of national emergency to service in the national defense on the same terms as fighting men, to the end that profit from war may be eliminated.

Unanimously indorsed the Legion's child welfare program and authorized a permanent endowment fund to permit carrying out the program.

Adopted sixty-seven resolutions calling for additions or amendments to the laws affecting disabled service men and women or the operation of the Veterans Bureau.

Adopted a series of resolutions calling for the maintenance of army and navy strength and the preservation of the National Defense Act of 1920, and urged that Defense Test Day be observed annually as a national holiday on Armistice Day.

Directed that Congress be asked to give to The American Legion Overseas Graves Endowment Fund the profits from the publication of *The Stars and Stripes*, official newspaper of the A. E. F.

Selected Omaha, Nebraska, as the 1925 national convention city, repeated the promise that the 1926 convention shall be held in Philadelphia, and received a formal invitation from the Department of France to hold the 1928 national convention in Paris.

Urged the development of civilian aeronautics as one of the best methods of promoting the national defense.

Adopted a resolution forbidding any Legion official to exploit his official position while participating in a pub-

lic election campaign, and authorized the National Americanism Commission to undertake a campaign to have all citizens vote in every election.

Directed a continuance of the educational campaign on flag etiquette and urged that the code adopted by the Legion-sponsored National Flag Conference be made a part of the courses in schools of every State.

Requested Congress to amend the Adjusted Compensation Act to permit beneficiaries so desiring to assign their payments to any patriotic organization chartered by Congress, with a view to securing funds for the Legion's work for the disabled.

Adopted a resolution expressing the Legion's sorrow over the death of the late Woodrow Wilson, and paid many tributes of respect to his memory.

Authorized inquiry to determine the feasibility of bringing to the United States the Panthéon de la Guerre for exhibition under Legion auspices, the proceeds to be used in acquiring and endowing a permanent American Legion Memorial Building in Paris.

Authorized the National Commander to appoint an American Legion World Peace Committee of ten members to report to the national convention in 1925 the most practical plan by which the Legion may utilize its influence for securing permanent world peace.

Accepted an invitation that the Legion join in establishing and endowing the Woodrow Wilson Memorial University at Valdosta, Georgia.

Urged every American Legion post to participate fully in the observance of American Education Week, November 17th to 23rd.

Urged departmental surveys of towns and cities with a view to determining effective programs of community betterment to be undertaken by local posts.



National Vice-Commanders of the Legion: Eugene P. Armstrong, Peyton H. Hoge, Jr., A. L. Perry, William Stern, Frank McFarland

ment of the Legion's Universal Service Act. This proposed legislation, often popularly referred to as the "universal draft," provides for the utilization by the nation of capital, labor and manpower for the armies on a more equitable basis than heretofore. The convention directed that the passage of this bill should be made one of the Legion's major activities during the coming session of Congress.

The act as originally drafted and adopted by the Fourth National Convention of the Legion follows:

An Act to Provide Further for the National Security and Defense. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled

(1) That, in the event of a national emergency declared by Congress to exist, which in the judgment of the President demands the immediate increase of the military establishment, the President be, and he hereby is, authorized to draft into the service of the United States such members of the unorganized militia as he may deem necessary; provided that all persons drafted into service between the ages of twenty-one and thirty or such other limit as the President may fix shall be drafted without exemption on account of industrial occupation.

(2) That in case of war or when the President shall judge the same to be imminent, he is authorized and it shall be his duty when, in his opinion, such emergency requires it,

(a) To determine and proclaim the material resources, industrial organizations and services over which government control is necessary to the successful termination of such emergency, and such control shall be exercised by him through agencies then existing or which he may create for such purposes;



Rev. Fr. Joseph Lonergan of Illinois, National Chaplain

(b) To take such steps as may be necessary to stabilize prices of services and of all commodities declared to be essential, whether such services and commodities are required by the Government or by the civilian population.

In reaffirming its indorsement of this measure the convention declared that its passage "will help insure our country against war and provide that in any future emergency there shall be no more slackers or profiteers and that we shall have in the future equal service for all and special profit for none."

CHILD WELFARE

AN outstanding conviction from the Saint Paul national convention is the fact that the Legion's national child welfare program is certain to be one of the organization's principal activities henceforth. The convention unanimously indorsed the work of the Legion's National Child Welfare Committee,

which has laid the groundwork for the future program in obedience to the mandate of the San Francisco national convention. It voted that the National Finance Committee immediately take steps to provide a permanent endowment fund of sufficient size to permit the carrying out of the plans which have been made.

Mark T. McKee, of Detroit, a member of the Legion's National Child Welfare Committee, addressed the convention, describing what the Legion already has accomplished for the benefit of orphaned and needy children. Mr. McKee spoke with unusual authority, for not only is he the father of nine

(Cont. on page 21)



As one Legion year ended and another began—Retiring National Commander John R. Quinn and National Commander-elect James A. Drain snapped outside the convention hall just after Mr. Drain's election

EDITORIAL

FOR God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.—Preamble to Constitution of The American Legion.

Five Years, Fifteen Miles

FIVE years ago—on November 10, 11 and 12, 1919—the First National Convention of The American Legion was held in Minneapolis. There were 684 delegates, and conservative estimates placed the total attendance, including delegates, alternates, and visitors, at 3,500. There was a parade, to a snowstorm accompaniment, with perhaps five thousand in line, and some hundred thousand persons looked on.

Three weeks ago in Saint Paul, which is fifteen miles from Minneapolis, was held the Sixth National Convention of The American Legion. The business of the convention was in the hands of 974 delegates, and the total attendance was about fifty thousand. Forty thousand men and women paraded through the streets of Minnesota's capital, and fully half a million souls looked on.

The comparison is impressive. But it is impressive chiefly because it takes into account only the outward show, the public spectacle that every Legion convention is, the colorful pageant, the fanfare of bands. Especially the bands. If vital statistics on the relative showing of bands at Minneapolis in 1919 and at Saint Paul in 1924 were available, the comparison would certainly be even more remarkable.

As a spectacle the Minneapolis convention admittedly was no great shakes. As an epoch-marking moment in the progress of organized veteranism toward a concrete ideal of service to country, however, it may reasonably be said to have matched in importance any Legion convention that followed or is ever likely to follow. "Legion views and policies are no longer nebulous and intangible," declared one commentator after the event. And at Cleveland, at Kansas City, at New Orleans and San Francisco and Saint Paul, those same policies lost none of the clarity and definiteness with which they had been originally formulated. Only a single detail has been altered. The force behind those policies—many of them have already come to full fruition—has gained in driving power, an inevitable consequence of the parallel gain in cohesion which has marked the Legion's development during the past five years. The Legion has hit its stride.

The comparison between 1919 and 1924 was brought home sharply at Saint Paul to the little company of pioneers who had been present at the earlier meeting. What a long journey the Legion had taken to cover those intervening fifteen miles! What reinforcements had joined it on the way! What prestige it had gained for itself!

But at Saint Paul the Legion was not thinking in terms of prestige. In no one year of the Legion's existence had so much concrete accomplishment been recorded as in the year that was closing. If the Legion were ever to have a convention devoted to crowing, the time to crow was at Saint Paul. There was no crowing.

Instead there was mapped out a program of fresh endeavor—a program the roots of which may be found in the recommendations of the Minneapolis convention five years before.

To that program—it can be read in detail in these pages—the new administration of the organization is com-

mitted. But more than the administration is committed. Fulfillment of that program is the concern of every individual member of The American Legion.

A Reminder That Reminds

HOW is it possible to get a larger proportion of the voters to the polls on election days, primary days, registration days, poll-tax days, and the various other occasions on which an American citizen may exercise the prerogatives of his citizenship?

The Saint Paul convention of the Legion gave considerable attention to this problem. It is an urgent problem. For if the majority does not vote, how can we say that the majority rules?

A few months ago a boys' club in Seattle, Washington, undertook to get the voters to the polls by a simple, easy, and ingenious method.

The boys divided up the city and sent one of their number into each district to obtain householders' signed pledges to display the United States flag while the polls were open. Signatures were easy to obtain. The idea received much publicity. Practically everyone in Seattle knew that flags would be displayed on Election Day as a reminder to vote.

When the voter sallied out to work, the first thing he saw on election morning was a display of flags as on a national holiday. "What's all the shootin' about?" was his first thought, followed almost immediately by "Why, it's Election Day. Guess I'd better vote." And he did.

An unusually large vote turned out for that election—considerably larger than would have been cast normally.

The flag display did it. And it proved that when the voters are reminded at the right time, they go out and vote.

By an Illinois Editor

WE shove along on the bench and make room for the editor of the Decatur (Illinois) *Daily Review*, who writes thus under the heading "Americanism in Action":

"Rabbi Mayer Lipman, of Springfield, was elected chaplain. He was nominated by the Rev. Arthur F. Ewert, a Presbyterian minister of Chicago, and his nomination seconded by Father Joseph Lonergan, Roman Catholic priest of Durand, Ill."

Thus ran a short paragraph in the news account of The American Legion [department] convention at Champaign. But that prosaic statement breathed some fundamentals of life; it meant that in this vibrant patriotic organization no distinction is made as to race and creed.

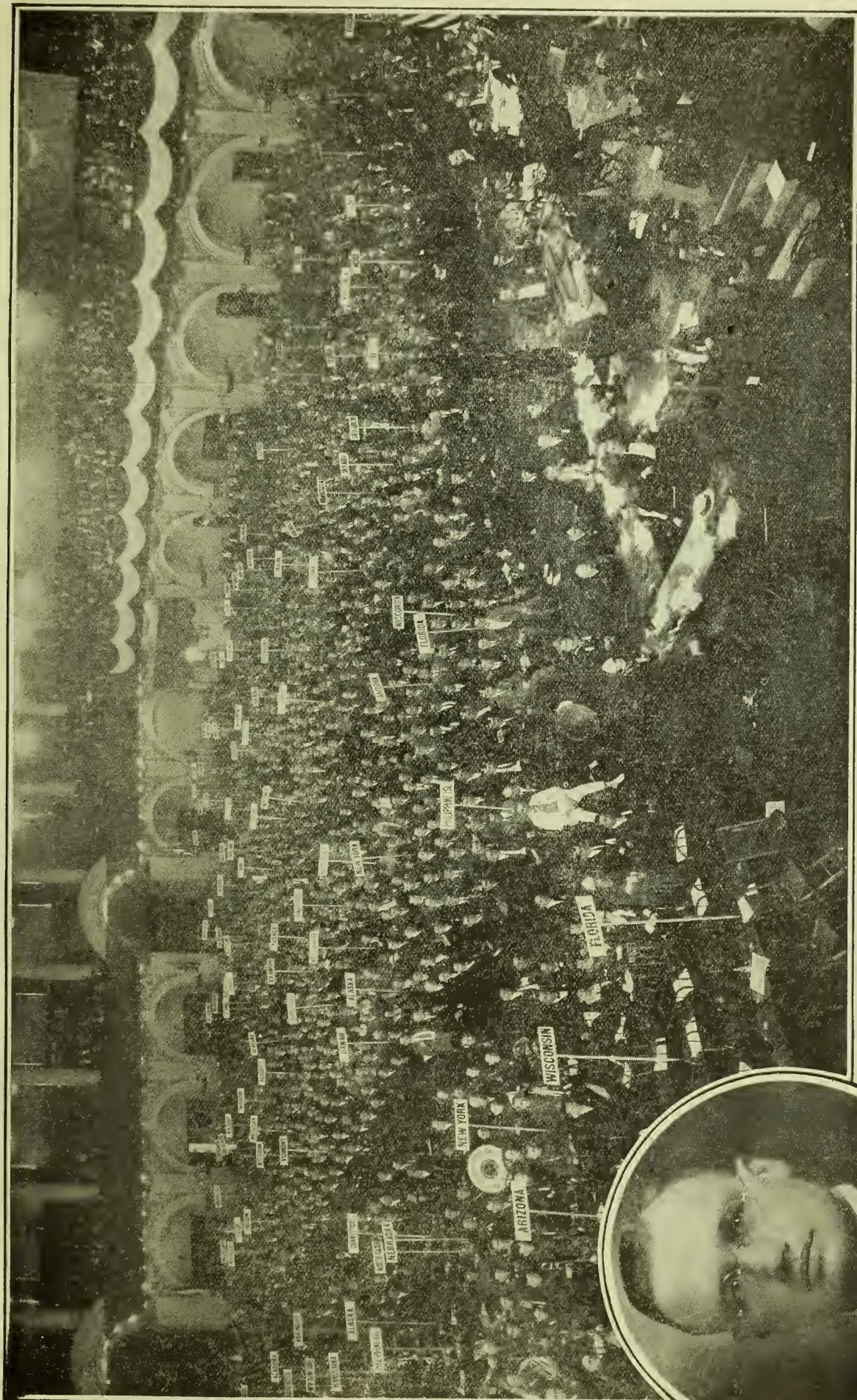
The American Legion is living up to its high purposes as enunciated in the preamble to its constitution, beginning with the stirring words, "For God and country." More power to it!

It is only necessary to add what the editor of the *Daily Review* could not know at the time because it had not yet happened. Father Lonergan is now National Chaplain of The American Legion.

Many modern persons think Custer's last stand was a place to buy hot dogs.

This age of rapid transit has reduced the running time to all points, including the sweet by-and-by.

After fifty-two years a book loaned by a Middletown, New York, man has been returned. This is believed to be a new world's speed record in this event.



THE SIXTH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

in session in the Municipal Auditorium, Saint Paul, Minnesota. Inset, Mayor and Legionnaire Arthur E. Nelson of Saint Paul, who extended the city's official greeting

Convention Casualties

By Wallgren



- AND NOW THAT IT'S ALL OVER
LET'S CONSIDER THE CASUALTIES -



CHAIRMAN OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION, ALL ASSEMBLED FOR PACKING AND SHIPPING - TO REST CAMPS.



WUZ YOUR LEGS SHOT OFF IN THE GUERRE, BUDDY?

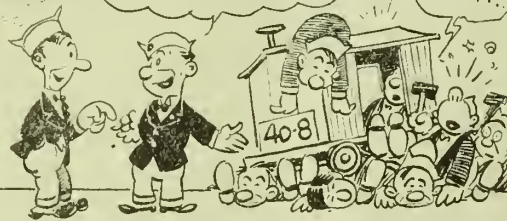
SHOT OFF NUTHIN'!! I WORE 'EM OFF MARCHIN' IN THESE CONVENTION PARADES!!



A SAD - BUT NOT UNUSUAL CASE

NO - THAT'S THE WRECK OF THE WRECKING CREW ITSELF - THEY JUST PUT ZOO P.G.'S THRU THE WORKS!!

BRING ON THE NEXT WICTIM!!



AFTER THE BIG "FORTY AND EIGHT" PROMENADE -



THE BIRD WHO DIDNT MISS A FEED OR A RE-UNION



COMPOSITE PICTURE OF ALL THE MEMBERS OF THE PRIZE-WINNING BANDS - AS THEY FELT - AT THE END OF THE MARCH -



SO I GOES RIGHT UP TO THE NEW NATIONAL COMMANDER AND SEZ - "BUDDY, DONT YOU REMEMBER ME? - AND HE SEZ -

WOOF!! HE'S BEEN TALKIN' FOR THREE HOURS STRAIGHT!!

EVERY YEAR WE'VE GOT TO GO THRU THIS!!

SAY LISTEN!! WE GOT ALL THAT ON THE RADIO!!



• AND LAST, BUT NOT LEAST - THE FOLKS WHO STAYED HOME - AND GOT IT ON THE REBOUND -

A Personal Page by Frederick Palmer

The Things That Count

SAY that one out of every dozen members of the Legion was at the convention. The other eleven will have the twelfth's impressions when he returns to the home post.

I was just another Legionnaire looking on. I was not a delegate. I had no part in the hard work of the committees and sub-committees. The thing that counts to me is what counts to every other Legionnaire present. It is the kick I got personally out of the convention—what it meant to me as an individual.

There were some big thrills on the floor of the convention. When I heard the Fort Worth band play I wanted the next meeting to be at Fort Worth. When I heard the Omaha band play I wanted the next meeting to be at Omaha. Either choice was all right to me if I were sure that both bands and all the other bands I heard at St. Paul, and then some more, were to be on hand for the 1925 jamboree.

My biggest thrills were out in the streets. They came in pictures that took me back to war days—pictures that whipped my imagination and stirred to life all kinds of memories that had been almost dormant in my heart.

Those magic days of reunion touched me with magic. In a week I lived more American history than I get from newspapers and books in a year. I was foregathering with the makers of history. Where in the routine of everyday life I had met Jones who brought back Chateau-Thierry, or Smith who brought back the Argonne, or Robinson who brought back training camp days, I could not turn my head in Saint Paul, without the insignia of a unit or a State recalling vividly some one of the many parts of the great whole of 1917-'18.

And all the parts of that great whole were represented at Saint Paul. The entire Legion seems to be here, was my first thought when I saw the crowds around the Saint Paul Hotel. For one out of every dozen of the Legion membership makes a mighty host. It was enough to give you an idea of Legion totals which you can never get from files of membership cards in the Weekly office. To be at the convention was to realize what a powerful, vital organization the Legion is. One out of every dozen cards was there in the life—very much so.

I FELT the fellowship of my own thrills with those of all the others present. Whenever I spoke to a Legionnaire I wanted to ask him what was his biggest thrill and to compare thrills with him. But thrills came too fast to bother with comparisons. These will have to be left to the talk-it-over days after the returning participants have had some sleep. For to sleep at the convention was a waste of time as all Legionnaires agree. You can sleep any night back home. You can go to a Legion convention only once a year.

And my own best thrill! It was one that made me want to wave the flag and shout that the child welfare problem was solved and that the future of humanity and of the nation was secure. I was passing along the aisle of a crowded sleeping car homeward bound. Sitting in a made-up lower berth was a sturdy young mother with her arm around a child of three or four years. Her other hand was stretched out across the aisle to her soldier husband.

The way she patted his cheek! Romance was not dead yet in that family. Her pride in him and his pride in her and their pride in their youngster! Something rose in my throat which made me share their pride. I concluded that when politics seem rotten and it looks as if the country is going to the bad I can cheer myself by thinking back to that picture, which can be multiplied by hundreds of thousands of

Legion men who have been doing their duty as wholesomely in peace as they did it in war.

The next best thrill was in the packed hotel lobby when I heard a cry at my side, "It's Pete! Pete, you old —" If these two had been members of the French or the Polish Legion they might have kissed. They didn't do that. But how they massaged each other's backs with resounding slaps as they hugged each other!

And some of their language was of the kind which is endearing among soldiers if you smile when you use it. Though smiling was not quite the word in their case. Either was trying to hang the corners of his mouth on the lobes of his ears in a record-beating grin. They would pull apart to survey each other and then recommence the slapping process and apply more language. In that joyous transcendent moment they did not know there was anybody else at the convention except themselves, and they were the entire population of Saint Paul in the bargain.

WELL, you've guessed it. They had not met since '18. And what they talked about was not the price of wheat or the Presidential campaign, or how they had gone to school together, or shot ducks together, or been initiated into a secret society the same night, or made money together, or any other of the topics which make re-union glow for non-service men. They had something which non-service men can never know. They had served together in their country's uniform. Theirs was the man-affection which may come to strangers who meet for the first time elbow to elbow in the ranks.

Hundreds of such incidents happen at every convention. They are worth noting by non-service men as a lesson. They explain why the Legion is the Legion, why there can be no other convention like a Legion convention. Other conventions may bring men from all parts of the country together, but the reunion of elements is superficial compared to that of ex-service men.

Non-service observers may not understand the light-hearted playfulness of a jamboree of ex-service men because they do not know how deep and how serious is the feeling underneath the banter and language which survive from those days when they were used to keep spirits high in the face of grim routine and death.

Recently I had attended a national political convention. On the floor of the hall, as at Saint Paul, were the standards of all the States. They spoke a thrill, but no such thrill to me as the standards at Saint Paul. No word of partisan politics entered into the Legion convention. There the spirit was of the whole in time of peace as it was when we were united in war.

No partisanship in that parade which was as the march of a tested patriotism! Party leaders might go and come, political policies might change, but the spirit of that parade stood for the nation in its unity and strength. It was strong in the stiff Regulars, whose business it is to be ready on the clock's tick, strong in all the veterans who were still in the vigor of manhood to respond to call. Big and little States and posts, distant and nearby States and posts, each reflected its own character as a part of the whole, and at the same time the character of the whole, which is bound together by the experience, the service and the inheritance of the men and women who marched.

That parade was one long thrill, and it is when you think its meaning over in connection with all the other thrills, after you have made up lost sleep at home, that you get the most valuable thrill of all which makes you a better citizen.

The 40 and 8 Has Come to Stay

NEVER in its history has the Promenade Nationale of the Forty and Eight attracted such fame as it won for itself at Saint Paul. Forty - and - Eighters roamed the streets as minstrels, paraded as drivers of the world's worst-looking vehicles in the Horse and Buggy parade, and wrecked into complete submission more than one hundred poor goofs. Among others, the heart of Louie Heims, proprietor of one of Saint Paul's best-known restaurants, was touched. He turned over one room to the Forty and Eight as its downtown headquarters and donated a virgin white wall on which, until it is torn down, will ever remain the monicker of every boxcarite who came to the promenade. Names two feet high grace the wall, now black with the scrawls of a thousand men who were received into the Hommes because they had done something good and constructive for The American Legion. And Louie liked it, as did everyone else. After two days of registration the wall in Louie's was one of the city's points of interest.

That horse and buggy parade staged by the Saint Paul voiture! Weeks before the promenade opened the Saint Paul Hommes had gone abroad into the country and dug up the most terrible looking horse-drawn vehicles that could be found. If the countryside didn't know that there was such a thing as a Forty and Eight period of art they learned it when they watched the first annual horse and buggy parade. The decrepit vehicles looked even more decrepit with their pictures and signs, painted by the pupils of this new school



George Dobson of Passaic, New Jersey, Chef de Chemin de Fer of the Forty and Eight

of art, which places humor above proportion and color schemes. The horses that pulled the gigs, hearses and covered wagons were talked into standing for anything—even that one which allowed himself to be dressed in silk stockings (carefully rolled), a chemise, and an ancient nightcap.

The regular parade, which has become second in interest only to the

annual Legion parade, attracted the attention that it deserved, and it deserved much. The poor goofs themselves, banded together as prisoners of war, marched. Though carefully guarded, the news leaked out that the exercise they got came in handy when they were wrecked in the ritual the following night. The wrecking was done by the Grand Voiture of Minneapolis.

The double-barreled peaked cap of the Hommes has come to stay. It was everywhere, downtown, uptown in the convention hall, in the parade reviewing stand, on the Legion convention platform. As the Legion grows and as the workers work so many more Legionnaires will become eligible for membership in the boxcar society. Not everyone may join. That privilege is reserved for those men who have served the Legion faithfully and well.

At times the peaked cap was missing from the lobbies and the streets. It was then that Junior Pioneer Hall was filled with Hommes who for the time being remained serious and performed the business of the promenade. Here it was that the society pledged itself anew to its program of child welfare, an activity that since its inception has been nearest the hearts of its members.

Two years ago the promenade voted to tax each Homme fifty cents a year to support a program of child betterment. That fund has remained untouched, and the half dollars, given freely, have mounted to a pile of more than \$25,000. The per capita tax of fifty cents will be continued during the next year. It was so voted unani-

(Continued on page 29)



The boxcar of Voiture 220 of Chicago in the big parade, with a glimpse of some of the half-million spectators crowded along the line of march

For a World-Wide Auxiliary

A VAST international sisterhood of the wives, mothers, daughters and sisters of the World War veterans of the world to preserve forever a peace dearly bought, an organization embracing not only the women of the Allied countries but those of the former enemy nations as well—such is the plan advanced at the Fourth National Convention of The American Legion Auxiliary, held simultaneously with the Legion's Sixth National Convention at Saint Paul.

The Auxiliary's determination to participate in the movement followed the report of its Foreign Relations Committee, which advocated sponsorship of the quinquennial session of the Women's International Council to be held in Washington next May. The resolution was unanimously adopted. Forty-two nations have membership in the council, in which, among a membership of millions, are hundreds of thousands of women relatives of war veterans.

Such a co-ordination of the woman-power of the world is in accord with the action of the FIDAC convention in London. The latter organization, meeting while the Legion and the Auxiliary were both in session, had placed before it two resolutions asking for the creation of an organization comprising the Auxiliary societies of all the Allied nations, uniting them into one great body. The American Legion Auxiliary goes a step further and would include as well the women members of such or-



Mrs. O. D. Oliphant of Trenton, New Jersey, National President of the Auxiliary

ganizations in the former enemy countries.

Word that Mrs. Lowell F. Hobart, Past National President of The American Legion Auxiliary, had been named by the FIDAC convention in London to

be the first honorary international organizer of the Women's Division of the FIDAC was received just after the Saint Paul Auxiliary convention had adjourned. Mrs. Hobart accepted. It is her desire that the first steps toward this international organization take place at the May session of the Women's International Council or at the Omaha convention of the Legion and the Auxiliary next October.

The Auxiliary by convention action becomes an equal partner with the Legion and the Forty and Eight in the child welfare program. To assist in this program the Auxiliary has raised a fund of \$7,000 to meet part of the maintenance cost of the Children's Bilet at Otter Lake, Michigan.

A resolution pledging the Auxiliary to a program of assisting in community and civic betterment work passed unanimously.

In its legislative program the Auxiliary follows the Legion, and has stood with it loyally in the battles which have gone before. This year it pledged itself anew to legislation advocated by the Legion, including support of the disabled emergency officers' bill, certain amendments to the Adjusted Compensation Law, compulsory education laws, and corrections in the administration of the nation's program of hospitalization and rehabilitation of the disabled veteran. It also urged full support of the National Defense Act.

Particularly may the Auxiliary point with pride to its record of hospital vis-



Auxiliary National Vice-Presidents: Mrs. W. H. Morgan, Mrs. E. W. Burt, Mrs. Cornie G. Cocklin, Mrs. Eugene Fenelon, Mrs. E. B. Stewart

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itation during the past year. As the reports of the district National Vice-Presidents were read there was unfolded a great story of devotion to the disabled. This devotion had included not only regular visits by Auxiliary members to the bedsides of the men but practical and intelligent bestowal of gifts which can alleviate the lot of the hospitalized buddy. In addition, Auxiliary units everywhere have maintained close liaison between disabled men and women and their families.

Copies of resolutions calling on the Veterans Bureau to raise the standard of food served in some hospitals and to provide tuberculous patients with special services were directed to be sent to the Director of the Bureau.

In adopting the report of the Heredity Committee, the Auxiliary asked the consent of the Legion to admit to membership the grandmothers of veterans. The National Executive Committee of the Legion is expected to take action on this point at its next meeting.

Mrs. Lowell F. Hobart, Past National President of the Auxiliary, presented to the Auxiliary a silver cup to be given each year to the department which has the highest percentage of potential membership. The cup is the twin of the MacNider Trophy, contested for yearly by Legion departments. The Georgia Trophy, given by the Georgia department, will be awarded to that department which compiles "the most constructive historical work." These two trophies will be competed for during the coming year, award being made at the Omaha convention next October.

A donation of \$500 was made to the Minnesota Auxiliary revolving fund, used to buy dairy cows for those rehabilitated men choosing dairying as a means of livelihood.

In the Auxiliary poppy campaigns of the future the funds derived will be devoted to national child welfare work if the suggestion made and passed by the convention is acted on favorably by the state departments. The Auxiliary advocates, also, the buying of poppies made exclusively by the disabled.

Dr. Kate Waller Barrett of Virginia, Past National President, in presenting

the report of the Foreign Relations Committee advocated the indorsement of the Haitian occupation. The report was accepted with a plea to make the Haitian schools free to the children of men making up the military force in the occupied area.

Mrs. O. D. Oliphant of Trenton, New Jersey, was elected National President on the third ballot. Before the Auxiliary became a national organization, Mrs. Oliphant had the New Jersey department running smoothly. She served as the first president of that department, and on the completion of her term was re-elected. Since the formation of the national organization she has served her department continuously on the National Executive Committee. During the past year she was chairman of the National Americanism Committee.

The following National Vice-Presidents were chosen: Central Division, Mrs. W. H. Morgan, Illinois; Southern Division, Mrs. E. W. Burt, North Carolina; Northwestern Division, Mrs. Eugene Fenelon, North Dakota; Western Division, Mrs. E. B. Stewart, Oregon; Eastern Division, Mrs. Cornie G. Cocklin, Vermont.

The National Executive Committee, meeting the day following the close of the convention, elected the following national officers: National Treasurer Mrs. Dorothy Harper, Hawaii; National Chaplain, Mrs. Caroline Talbot, Alaska; National Historian, Mrs. Joseph H. Thompson, Pennsylvania. The new National President exercised the prerogative allowed her under the Constitution by delaying the appointment of a National Secretary. Until some action is taken the present Secretary, Miss Bess B. Wetherholt of Ohio, will continue in that office.

The Auxiliary's sister of the Forty and Eight, 40 Femmes et 8 Chapeaux, further entrenched itself as the permanent fun organization of the Auxiliary by initiating into the mysteries 40 Auxiliary members whose service to the organization entitles them to such recognition. Mrs. Madge King Johnson of North Dakota was elected Chapeau Nationale. Mrs. Belle Nye of New Mexico and Mrs. Madge Kennedy of Nebraska were chosen Bons Chapeaux.

James A. Drain, All-American

(Continued from page 6)

because he was afraid the dog at the farmhouse where he had left his wheel might chew it up. This thong saved his life. With his left hand he fashioned the strap into a tourniquet about his right wrist. He reduced the throbbing stream of blood to a trickle, and started for the nearest house, which was two miles away. It seemed that he would never make that last mile, he was so weak. Once he sank down and all but lost consciousness. He remembered just enough to take three of the deepest breaths he could force into his lungs—which is a good thing for anyone to remember. Oxygen will stave off a faint. It revived Drain. He walked up to the farmhouse.

"My God, you are killed!" exclaimed the farmer, and went sick.

"Killed hell. Hitch up a team and take me to a doctor."

The farmer's wife revived the farmer, gave the wounded man a stiff shot of neat alcohol, and started them both

toward the nearest town six miles away. There a country doctor put another tourniquet on Drain's arm, and left him to leave the office alone to walk to an electric line six blocks away, which would take him to a hospital in Spokane. But Drain got there. A friend of his, a surgeon, looked him over.

"Is it gone?" asked Drain.

"Yes."

"Can't you save a trigger finger? Any finger I could use as a trigger finger?"

After a consultation the doctors said there was one chance in a hundred. Drain said to try for that chance. They did. It cost him two months of unimaginable suffering. Poisoning set in. The doctors said the ethics of their profession required another amputation, but that Drain probably would not live more than three hours. Drain went under the ether saying, "I'll never die. I'll never quit." In two months more

he was able to get up and leave the hospital.

The money he had saved was about used up. In ten days his term as clerk of the court would expire. The Drains now had four children. The flour was getting low in the bin. While Jim was casting about for a good way to make a new beginning John R. Rogers, the governor of Washington, sent for him. Rogers was a Democrat, swept into office in 1896 on the populist-free silver tide. He had been a radical and a pacifist, to start with, but his views had moderated some. He had given Washington such a good administration that he was the only Democrat on the state ticket to survive the McKinley landslide in 1900. He told Drain he wanted him to become adjutant general of the National Guard.

Drain said this was impossible for several reasons. He had one arm, and was about to resign the commission he already held. Drain had joined the Second Washington Infantry in 1892 and had risen to major. Another reason was that he was a Republican, and a third reason was that he had a very low opinion of the State's military establishment. He told the governor it was a paper force of little military value and that most of the ranking officers were incapable.

The governor dismissed Drain's objections one by one. "Men who lose their right arms are either better or worse men than they were before. They are never the same. The time will come when you will be glad you lost your hand. As for your politics—there is to be no politics in the National Guard from now on. As to the incompetence of the Guard—if it remains incompetent after you take charge that will be your responsibility and not mine."

So Jim Drain became the head of the Washington National Guard with the rank of brigadier general. He created a military establishment from what had been a name for one. He rewrote the laws and got the legislature to adopt them. He bounced high officers, including another brigadier, and promoted men who were fit to command. He got new equipment and trained his men to use it. He wrote a set of regulations which provided that the Guard should never be called out on riot duty except by written request of citizens in the threatened zone; that such zones immediately should be placed under martial law; that troops should load only with ball ammunition; that they should never fire except at the nearest man of the mob.

General Drain took these regulations to the governor and told him that if they were adopted, and if the people knew what they were, the military of the State of Washington would never have to kill a man. Governor Rogers, ex-pacifist and ex-radical, approved the regulations. No governor of any State had ever done such a thing before. When the governor died of pneumonia his last request was that Drain give him a military funeral.

Drain conceived the idea of rehabilitating the National Guard nationally, of making it a uniform force in all States, of building it up by contact with the Regular Army. This was the idea he carried to Washington, D. C., on his first trip east. The interview with Roosevelt followed. The President was enthusiastic. He told Drain to see

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Rebuilt in our own factory just like new for

ONLY \$3 down—NOT ONE CENT MORE

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We want you to see for yourself that this is the typewriter you ought to have, and therefore, we make our great free trial offer. You merely send us the three dollars deposit and we ship the machine for you to try for ten full days before you decide to keep it. If not satisfied, every penny of your money will be returned to you.

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Every Underwood we sell is rebuilt JUST LIKE NEW. It is dismantled right to the very bottom, and remanufactured to make it just like a new typewriter, with new enamel, new nickel, new platen, new key rings, new type; a complete, perfect typewriter, with two-color ribbon, back spacer, stencil device, automatic ribbon reverse, tabulator, key shift lock, etc. Impossible to tell it from a brand new Underwood, either in appearance, durability or quality of work.

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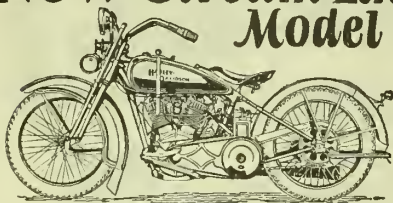
Photograph of the Shipman-Ward Factory in Chicago, the largest typewriter rebuilding plant in the world. Every typewriter passes through every department of this modern factory, insuring perfect machines to every respect.

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Elihu Root, the Secretary of War. Root declared the idea was wonderful, but that it could never be carried out.

A year later, however—in 1903—the Dick Bill was a law. It carried the name of the Senator from Ohio, Mr. Dick. This and that officer of the Regular Army or National Guard was prominently mentioned as contributing to the success of the legislation which made the Guard an integral part of the military forces of the United States. The name of James A. Drain scarcely appeared at all. Yet it was Drain's conception, and largely his work. Roosevelt privately declared that Drain more than any other man was responsible for the Dick Bill, and sent him the pen with which the bill was signed.

With that pen Drain did a characteristic thing. He wrote down the President's words, put them in a box with the pen, and put the box in his safe, with the written injunction that it was "to be presented to my son, James A. Drain, Jr., upon my death." Until Commander Drain gave the Weekly permission to relate this incident, not more than fifty people knew of it.

IN 1903 Mr. Drain passed another great milestone in his career. He was admitted to the bar in the State of Washington. He passed his examination 99 percent perfect. He did not begin to practice in earnest, however, until 1908, when he removed to Washington, D. C. There his outside activities continued to be extensive, and were mostly concerned with questions of national defense. He owned and edited a journal called *Arms and the Man*. Among other things he was chairman of the executive committee of the National Guard Association of the United States, president of the National Militia Board and president of the National Rifle Association. Despite his physical handicap he is an expert marksman with both rifle and pistol, and was captain of the American Army Rifle team which competed in England in 1908.

Mr. Drain helped to pass in 1916 the law which created the Officers' Reserve Corps. On the day the United States declared war with Germany he was commissioned a major of ordnance and two weeks later was made assistant chief of the division of small arms of the War Department. He applied for duty with combat troops and a month later was ordered to report to the First Division, then getting ready to embark. Major General Sibert was commanding that division.

"I asked you to send me the best ordnance officer you could find," Sibert told Major General Crozier, chief of ordnance, "and I understand I am to get a National Guardsman and a one-armed one at that."

"You're also getting what you asked for—the best division ordnance officer I could find," replied Crozier.

Major Drain was not in France very long before he became impressed with the possibilities of the tank. He wrote a report which resulted in the creation of the Anglo-American Tank Commission, of which Drain was made the American member. The commission evolved a plan for increasing tank production. The American major had generals, ambassadors, ministers doing his bidding. He was reprimanded for exceeding his authority—but he got his tank plan through. He was decorated

with the Distinguished Service Medal, the French Legion of Honor and the Cross of the King of Italy. He was discharged as a lieutenant colonel, Tank Corps.

"My military service was entirely undistinguished," Colonel Drain once told an ex-private. "I commanded no troops in action. Most of the time I was in France I was as safe as I am at home. I'd a million times rather have had your service than mine."

Mr. Drain joined The American Legion in 1919, and has devoted half of his time to it ever since. He has served as Department Commander of the District of Columbia, as National Executive Committeeman, and as a member of the National Legislative Committee, the National Rehabilitation Committee, and the Board of Directors of The American Legion Weekly. His chief interest has been the rehabilitation of the disabled. Mr. Drain feels that that is a subject with which he has a personal acquaintance. He feels that he has turned a physical handicap into an asset, and his sympathetic counsel has helped many a crippled soldier to get a new grip on himself and build for a fresh start. Mr. Drain's private office in Washington is always open to a disabled soldier. He recently figured up that about 2,500 men must have called on him during the past five years. Good training, surely, for the job Mr. Drain now fills.

When it became apparent to Mr. Harding that he would have to get rid of Charles R. Forbes as director of the Veterans Bureau the President called Mr. Drain to the White House and urged him to accept the post. Mr. Drain explained that it would entail a great financial sacrifice on his part, but that he would take the job if no other acceptable man could be found. But the President found Frank T. Hines. Mr. Drain has been offered numerous Presidential appointments, including one as Assistant Secretary of War by Roosevelt, all of which he declined.

In addition to his home in Washington the new National Commander has a farm in Virginia, on the Potomac. It was part of George Washington's estate. He spends as much of his time there as he can. Shooting is still his prime sport, but he rides, drives a car, swims and plays golf.

ON leaving Washington for the Saint Paul convention he told his brother and law partner, Dale Drain:

"If you should read in the paper that I am elected National Commander, that will serve as notice of my complete withdrawal from the firm until my term of office expires."

And in his salutory to the Legion membership, dictated in a stateroom on a train speeding away from Saint Paul, the Commander said to the Legion:

"I know what you want of me. . . . You and I know that if with true public spirit—without partisanship in politics and without intolerance in religion—we stand fast for God and country, our weight will balance the world. With the help of God and you, my comrades, I pledge my best to make this good dream come true."

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As the Record Was Written

(Continued from page 11)

children but he also has added to his family two other children by adoption. With two little boys and two little girls from The American Legion Children's Billett at Otter Lake, Michigan, beside him on the platform, Mr. McKee declared:

"What America is going to be like twenty-five years from now isn't going to be decided by us, but by boys and girls like these. It isn't the problem and the province of The American Legion to take care only of the children of our comrades—that is a great big job in itself and probably is as much as we can possibly do—but we have in addition to that a larger interest, an interest that takes in all the children of America."

Following Mr. McKee's address, the convention adopted the following resolution, submitted by its own committee on child welfare, presented by Past National Adjutant Lemuel Bolles, its chairman:

RESOLVED, 1. That the American Legion reiterate the acknowledgment of its duty and obligation to care for the dependent children of the veterans of the World War, and in addition to continue to strive for the attainment of a square deal for all children.

2. That this convention approve the work of the National Children's Welfare Committee performed since the last annual convention and commend it for the auspicious beginning of this important phase of American Legion activity made possible by its efforts.

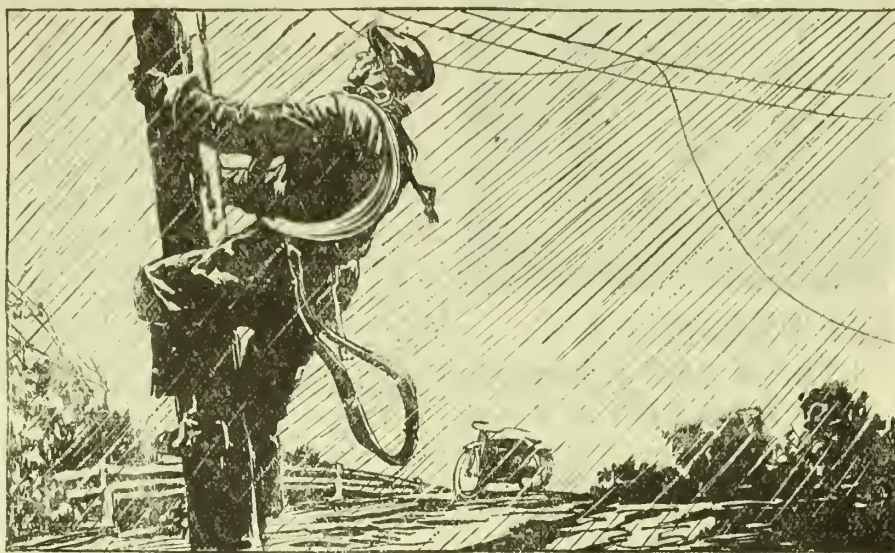
3. That in caring for dependent children of deceased and disabled service men the integrity of the home shall be maintained in order that children of the same family may be kept together and left in the care of their own mother whenever conditions permit. Where this is impossible such children shall be adopted into foster homes where the local posts can effectively follow up and safeguard the welfare of such children.

4. That the Otter Lake Billet and the Kansas Billet, when completed, be maintained and supported nationally as clearing houses to care for such children temporarily as cannot be cared for either in their own or suitable foster homes until such time as other homes may be provided for them.

5. That the action of the National Children's Welfare Committee and the National Executive Committee in accepting the gift of the Otter Lake Billet from the Department of Michigan and the gift of 388 acres of land and \$100,000 in cash from the Department of Kansas for the erection of a similar billet in Montgomery County, Kansas, is hereby formally ratified and approved, and that the thanks of the convention be extended to the Departments of Michigan and Kansas for their action in this respect, and the National Children's Welfare Committee be empowered to accept such other gifts of money, land and service as may be in line with their purposes.

6. That The American Legion pledges itself to secure state and Federal legislation for the protection of all children where such legislation is not at present on the statute books.

7. That The American Legion pledges its support to all approved and recognized national organizations working for the care and education of children in their endeavors



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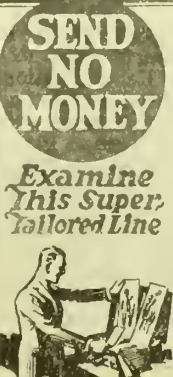
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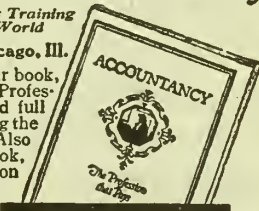
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8. That a National Children's Welfare Committee, to be appointed by the incoming National Commander, shall consist of nine members, three to serve one year, three to serve two years and three to serve three years, contemplating the appointment of three each year for terms of three years each, thereby securing continuity of administration to carry on the work begun by the present committee. That the American Legion Auxiliary and the Forty and Eight be invited to appoint similar committees of like numbers for like terms, all three committees to function as a joint committee and have equal voice in carrying out this program so important to each of the organizations.

9. That each department be urged to appoint a departmental children's welfare committee and to encourage the appointment of a like committee in each post to function with the departmental committee to aid in carrying out the work of the National Committee in their communities.

10. That the National Finance Committee be directed immediately to take steps to secure a permanent endowment fund of sufficient size to permit the above outlined program to be financed with the interest derived from such a permanent endowment.

In order that the Legion's child welfare program might be continued on a permanent basis, the convention recommended that the National Child Welfare Committee establish offices at National Headquarters in Indianapolis, and that a vice-chairman and other assistants be employed.

REHABILITATION

THE convention re-emphasized that in the domain of American Legion activity the claims of the wounded and disabled and of the dependents of veterans who have died come first. The convention adopted sixty-seven resolutions dealing with problems of rehabilitation. It adopted them unanimously and without comment. There was no fireworks. No spectacular issues touching the disabled came before the convention as have come before conventions in previous years. The Legion itself largely is responsible for that. Disabled problems are moving toward solution. Actions urged at previous conventions have become facts. Within the past year much has been done. The Legion could have patented itself on the back, had not there been other work at hand to do.

Much of this was technical work—a job for experts in the science of veteran rehabilitation. The Convention Committee on Rehabilitation was composed of such men. The Chairman was J. M. Dickinson. This committee worked long and late.

The sixty-seven resolutions call for a reorganization, improvement and extension of the Legion's Rehabilitation service, by which the Legion will cooperate with the Veterans Bureau and endeavor to see that the Bureau gives the disabled men the service to which they are entitled. A liberal budget, which will have priority over other Legion expenditures, was ordered for this work. The amount suggested was approximately twenty-five cents per Legion member. Given a membership of 700,000, this would be \$175,000 annually.

Though improved, the convention

found that the Veterans Bureau falls short of satisfactorily discharging its tasks. The Legion declared it would never be satisfied with anything "short of superservice" for the disabled. Numerous specific recommendations were made for the improvement of the Bureau. Complaint was made of incompetent personnel and the director of the Bureau was urged to survey his establishment and release those who were unfit. Particular reference was made to occupants "of the higher positions" at the central office in Washington. Earlier during the convention Director Hines addressed the delegates and bespoke the Legion's support of his efforts, particularly in ridding the Bureau of political influence. The convention resolution which gives a general survey of the situation in the Bureau follows:

The chief concern of The American Legion being the care of these disabled comrades, and the Veterans Bureau having been originally created at the instance of The American Legion as the governmental agency to effect this purpose, the Legion is deeply concerned in the efficient administration of that Bureau.

The Veterans Bureau has never functioned with the efficiency which The American Legion can consider satisfactory. This evident lack of efficiency must be traceable to some cause.

The national and district rehabilitation service of The American Legion, paralleling in many features the organization of the Veterans Bureau and The American Legion rehabilitation representatives in the various States and districts have made a study of, and are well acquainted with, the operation of the Bureau.

The American Legion realizes that the present director of the Veterans Bureau inherited many faults and weaknesses in personnel and organization, in spite of which the Bureau is now functioning more efficiently than at any time heretofore. However, the Legion can never find itself satisfied with anything short of superservice for the disabled, and is therefore in duty bound to continually strive, without fear or favor, for improvement in the Bureau.

After careful examination of the problem your Committee has come to the unescapable conclusion that there is lack of co-ordination, unnecessary delay and failure to keep the Director correctly advised, thus creating a situation which is intolerable to The American Legion, which holds it to be fundamental that nothing shall be wanting to alleviate the pain, improve the condition and rehabilitate to useful and healthy citizenship those whose war service placed a special burden upon them.

Therefore The American Legion recommends to the Director of the Veterans Bureau that he forthwith conduct a searching examination of all Bureau activities, with particular reference to the central office and occupants of the higher positions therein, to determine those who should be separated from the service. The American Legion will gladly place at the disposal of the Director every facility at its command to assist him in this necessary work.

The American Legion condemns the practice of changing from one locality or position to another locality or position inefficient employees of the Veterans Bureau who should rightfully be separated from the service.

In filling such places as may be made vacant by the separation of inefficient employees from the Bureau only ex-service men should be employed or promoted, and special care should be used to select solely

those who are, by character and experience, superior men, thoroughly capable of performing this most important work.

While many divisions of the Veterans Bureau function below the desired standard, the planning service is the most conspicuous example of inefficiency, followed closely by the central office board of appeals. While there are in each of these departments some good men who should be retained, the inefficient should be identified and separated from the service. As time is of vital importance in dealing with the problem of the disabled, none should be lost in this or any necessary similar action by the Director.

The Director is urged especially to be constantly on the alert throughout the entire organization of the Bureau for any and all instances where it may appear that there is any lack of courtesy or humanness on the part of any Bureau representative in dealing with or examining any ex-service man or woman, and to take the necessary steps to speedily rid the Bureau of any employe who indicates by the use of any harsh or improper language, or by any other form of mistreatment or neglect, that he does not have the proper sense of duty of dealing courteously and humanely with all ex-service people.

Changes in legislation by amendment to the Reed-Johnson Act, passed last spring, were outlined. It was declared that present hospital facilities are insufficient to meet the requirements of this law, which opened government hospitals to veterans of all wars since 1897, whether suffering from service disabilities or not. A program of hospital construction, enlargement and improvement totaling 7,115 new beds was recommended.

Other points stressed in resolutions were:

That the welfare and follow-up service is a valuable adjunct to medical and hospital treatment and should be developed to the highest degree in order that private endeavor and funds need no longer be solicited to provide service which the Government should perform.

That as Civil Service has proved to be a failure for the selection and procurement of competent and humane medical personnel, its immediate abandonment for this purpose is urged.

The chairman of the National Rehabilitation Committee is instructed to cause a thorough investigation of various Veterans Bureau hospitals in which there appears to be great hazard of fire and to make suitable recommendations to the Director for the prompt correction of this situation.

All national military homes in which are principally hospitalized World War veterans should be placed under the Veterans Bureau.

Compensation at the rate of not less than \$50 per month for life should be provided for veterans whose service-connected tuberculosis has become arrested.

The Director of the Veterans Bureau is urged to rule that in deciding the question of employability, due consideration be given to actual working demonstrations by supposedly rehabilitated vocational trainees and to the requirements for employability in various trades and professions; and that provision be made by the Bureau for a followup supervision of not less than four months from the last date of pay of a rehabilitated trainee during which period such trainee shall aid in securing employment and be given such other assistance as shall insure successful rehabilitation. It is further recommended that the Veterans Bureau Employment Service be made per-

manent and be extended to include all beneficiaries of the Bureau.

The United States Veterans Bureau is urged to inaugurate a campaign for the reinstatement of War Risk Insurance.

Time spent on sick leave or in hospital should be not deducted from the period allotted for vocational training; the removal or extension of the dates, June 30, 1925, for the last date of induction into training, on June 30, 1926, as the date for the end of all training, is recommended for all veterans, especially for those now in hospital and those suffering from tuberculosis, insanity and neuropsychiatric diseases. It is further recommended that provision be made for dependents of trainees other than wives and children.

It should be declared unethical for any Legionnaire to charge for any services to any ex-service man or member of his family the performance of which service was accomplished by American Legion machinery. The American and the several state Bar Associations will be furnished with copies of this resolution.

The National Commander is directed to endeavor to bring about the early trial of C. R. Forbes, now under indictment for irregularities in the administration of the Veterans Bureau, to the end that if guilty he may be punished and if innocent he may be exonerated.

NATIONAL DEFENSE

PREPAREDNESS on land, on sea and in the air sums up the convention's attitude on questions of national defense. The subject was considered by three convention committees. One committee reported on military measures, one on naval measures, one on aeronautics. Their reports were adopted without change.

The report of the Committee on Naval Affairs, submitted by its chairman, C. V. Spawr of Michigan, declared that the United States had lost its place as a co-equal of Great Britain as a naval power and urged that immediate steps be taken to regain it. The 5-5-3 ratio agreed upon by the Limitations Conference has dropped to a 5-4-3 ratio, with America second, closely pressed by Japan. Congress was urged immediately to bring the battle fleet "on a parity with the strongest navy in the world in the matter of range and power of its guns." The elevation of guns on first-line ships was recommended.

Congress was urged to make liberal appropriations for naval aviation and to pursue its policy of the development of naval bases. The location of bases should be determined only by their utility to the fleet. This is a criticism of the constant pressure brought upon Congress to locate bases so as to enhance property values in politically-favored cities.

The report favored the development of the merchant marine, which immediately on the declaration of war becomes an integral part of the Navy for purposes of transport and supply.

The report of the Military Affairs Committee, submitted by D. John Markey of Maryland, recommended that Congress restore to the active list of the Army "our distinguished comrade and Legionnaire, General John J. Pershing." General Pershing was retired on September 13th on account of age. The resolution declared that the country still needed his military counsel.

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The convention reaffirmed the Legion's past stand on military policy, which is based on the National Defense Act of 1920, which was recommended at the Legion's first convention in Minneapolis in 1919. Pursuant to the requirements of this act the first national Defense Test was held September 12th, just preceding the convention at Saint Paul. The convention recommended that the test be made an annual event on Armistice Day and pledged the continued co-operation of the Legion to make it successful.

The report recommended that Congress reopen for three years awards of medals and citations for acts of heroism during the World War. The time limit on such awards expired by law on April 7, 1923. A raise in the base pay of soldiers in the regular establishment from \$21 to \$30 a month was recommended.

The Committee on Aeronautics, headed by Reed Landis, of Illinois, deplored the "lamentable deficiency and their numbers and equipment" of the Army and Navy Air Forces, despite the high degree of efficiency among the personnel. Our strength in the air was called "decidedly inferior to that of many lesser nations." The development of commercial aviation was held to be the solution of the air defense problem of the United States.

LEGISLATION

PASSAGE by Congress of a number of laws or amendments to existing laws bearing on the subject of adjusted compensation was recommended by the convention. After much discussion the convention voted to ask Congress to amend the Adjusted Compensation Act so that any veteran might assign his right to payment to any patriotic organization chartered by Congress. The purpose of this amendment is to permit veterans voluntarily to assign their rights to payment to the trust fund to be established for the benefit of the Legion's rehabilitation program.

It was emphasized that in seeking the passage of this resolution the Legion was asking nothing for itself, but simply was endeavoring to find a convenient means of carrying out its paramount obligation to the disabled man. It was emphasized also that the assignments of any rights under the compensation act should be wholly voluntary on the part of those Legionnaires amply able to afford to do so, and that there is no intent to deprive wives and mothers or other beneficiaries of sums to which they should be entitled by all rules of justice.

Other recommendations were:

That the Adjusted Compensation Act be amended to set aside the ruling of the Comptroller of the Treasury that deductions shall be made of sums due the Government as a result of a veteran's war service.

That the Philippine Scouts be given the benefits under the Adjusted Compensation Act.

That heirs of deceased men be entitled to full benefits under the compensation act without furnishing proof of dependency.

Recommendations on subjects other than adjusted compensation were as follows:

That a National Archives Building be constructed at Washington.

That the civil service laws be amended to give more certain preference to service men and that appointment of service men on lists of eligibles be made mandatory.

That civil service be made applicable to government employes in the Canal Zone.

That legislation be enacted to prevent the discharge of men and women in government employ except by regular civil service procedure.

That the 1923 Civil Service Reclassification Act be amended to prevent reduction in salary of veterans in the employ of the Government.

That Congress enact immediately a law giving disabled emergency army officers the same retirement privileges as are enjoyed by Regular Army officers.

That Congress set aside as a trust fund the profits of the overseas *Stars and Stripes*, the income to be added to The American Legion Overseas Graves Endowment Fund.

That Congress enact legislation for the relief of service men on homesteads who are unable to meet their payment obligations because of adverse agricultural and economic conditions.

AMERICANISM

THE whole American Legion is urged to use every effort to have every Legionnaire cast his vote at all elections and to conduct a campaign to impress upon citizens generally the necessity and duty of voting under the terms of a resolution adopted by the Saint Paul convention, which directed that the National Americanism Commission shall lead in the campaign.

The National Commander under the resolution is requested to address an appeal to all the posts of the country urging that all citizens vote as a patriotic duty. The slogan of the campaign suggested by the convention is "No slacker voters in America."

Other resolutions adopted by the convention on the subject of Americanism were as follows:

That Congress make "The Star-Spangled Banner" the national anthem.

That the National Americanism Commission carry on a campaign asking all towns and cities to pass ordinances licensing only those decorators who hang the flag correctly in accordance with the rules adopted by the National Flag Conference, and that the commission continue its general campaign of education on flag etiquette.

Urging state and local school departments to provide adequate education for immigrants.

Urging complete revision of the naturalization laws.

Urging Congress to enact laws requiring that all publications in foreign languages be required to publish also translations in English.

Demanding strict border patrols to prevent violations of laws respecting immigration, prohibition, narcotics, customs, public health and other subjects.

Recommending that Congress pass laws for the deportation of aliens convicted of violations of the prohibition and narcotic laws.

Recommending that the patriotic character of Memorial Day be maintained and that programs of sports on that day be discontinued.

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Accepting an invitation for American Legion participation in the project to establish a Woodrow Wilson Memorial University at Valdosta, Georgia, the Legion to be represented in the management of the institution and to cooperate in the raising of funds.

Strongly recommending fullest participation by every Legion post and department in American Education Week, November 17th to 23rd.

Urging all Legion departments to conduct campaigns for the full enforcement of compulsory education laws.

Recommending that Congress provide financial assistance for schools maintained to educate American children living in certain foreign countries, and that the United States commissioner of education investigate alleged deprivation of educational opportunities for children of Army and Navy and Marine Corps personnel and children of employees of Veterans Bureau hospitals.

Urging all agencies in our nation to oppose the growing evil of narcotic drug peddling and smuggling.

Denouncing extreme pacifist organizations, notably the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Youth Movement, and the Third Internationale.

Urging the enforcement of existing child labor laws and enactment of such additional legislation as is necessary.

RESOLUTIONS

IN addition to adopting a large number of resolutions bearing on the specialized activities of The American Legion, the national convention adopted resolutions on general subjects as follows:

Expressing the Legion's sorrow over the death of its wartime Commander-in-Chief, Woodrow Wilson.

Urging that the National Defense Act of 1920 be maintained intact and that civilian camps be supported by Congress so that a main purpose of this law shall be carried out.

Calling on members of the Legion and citizens generally to exercise the ballot in all elections as a matter of privilege and duty to country.

Reaffirming that The American Legion is non-political in character and expressing the sense that the National Constitution of The American Legion prohibits all officers, employees or representatives of the national, departmental and post organizations from taking any part whatsoever in the affairs of a candidate for political office and calling on the national officers and the National Executive Committee to be vigilant in preventing violations of this attitude.

Reaffirming Legion opposition to political interference with any governmental agencies dealing with sick and disabled service men.

Authorizing an investigation by the National Executive Committee of the feasibility of bringing to the United States for exhibition under Legion auspices the Panthéon de la Guerre, the profits from such exhibition to be used for acquiring a permanent American Legion Memorial Building in Paris.

Authorizing the National Commander to appoint an American Legion World Peace Committee, composed of ten members, which shall report to the 1925 National Convention the best

method by which the Legion may make its influence effective in the cause of world peace.

Indorsing Fathers' Auxiliaries to Legion posts.

Promising full Legion support to the project of the St. Nazaire Association to erect a memorial at St. Nazaire, France, to commemorate the arrival on June 26, 1917, of the first American combat troops embarked direct from the United States to France, this memorial to be presented to France.

Directing that National Headquarters forbid the use of the name of the national organization or national officers to be attached to any organization, corporation or individuals for commercial purposes within the limits of any department without the consent of such departments.

Sanctioning and supporting The American Legion Press Association, formed during convention week to coordinate Legion publicity activities, particularly those relating to department and post publications.

COMMUNITY WELFARE

ALL departments of the Legion are requested to undertake surveys of the community needs of the towns and cities of their States with a view to ascertaining what community activities may best be undertaken by the posts of these towns and cities, under the terms of a resolution adopted by the Saint Paul convention.

The resolution further recommends that each Legion post in 1925 do something outstanding and constructive for its community, and suggests that these are suitable activities:

Boys' work, through the Boy Scouts or similar organizations.

Girls' work, through the Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls or other instrumentalities.

The providing of playgrounds, athletic grounds, parks, community centers, memorials and civic appliances.

The resolution adopted by the convention also recommends that funds be provided for the proper administration of the Community Service and Civic Betterment Bureau at National Headquarters, so that this bureau may continue to devise plans for community efforts by posts and give assistance to posts in carrying out these plans.

AMENDMENTS

THE Saint Paul national convention adopted two amendments to the national constitution and by-laws. The first was made necessary by the fact that an amendment adopted by the San Francisco convention last year was in conflict with the Legion's national charter granted by Congress. The conflicting clause was eliminated by the newly-adopted amendment. It related to eligibility for membership. The amended section of the constitution reads as follows:

Any person shall be eligible for membership in The American Legion who was regularly enlisted, drafted, inducted or commissioned, and who was accepted for and assigned to active duty in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States at some time during the period between

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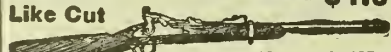
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April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, both dates inclusive; or who, being a citizen of the United States, at the time of his entry therein, served on active duty in the naval, military or air forces of any of the governments associated with the United States during the World War; provided that no person shall be entitled to membership (a) who, being in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States during such period, refused on conscientious, political or other grounds to subject himself to military discipline or unqualified service, or (b) who, being in such service, was separated therefrom under circumstances amounting to dishonorable discharge and has not subsequently been officially restored to an honorable status.

The second change made in the Legion's fundamental law was the amendment of the by-laws by the insertion of a new section reading as follows:

There shall be the following standing committees: National Rehabilitation Committee, National Americanism Commission, National Child Welfare Committee and National Legislative Committee. The committees shall consist of such number of members of The American Legion as the National Executive Committee may from time to time determine. Appointments to such committees shall be made by the National Executive Committee. The term of office of each member of such committee shall be three years, one third thereof to be chosen each year under such initial regulations as the National Executive Committee shall prescribe.

At the meeting of the National Executive Committee held immediately following the national convention's adjournment it was decided that the National Commander should consult with individual members of the committee concerning the best method of making effective the new section of the by-laws and that pending adoption of this method the executive heads of national committees should continue to conduct the activities of their committees, the whole question to be taken up at the next meeting of the National Executive Committee.

FINANCE

BY adopting a report of its finance committee, the national convention directed that the national budget for the following year shall be 80 percent of its previous year's revenue, and that the national dues for 1925 shall remain unchanged at one dollar, of which 75 cents shall be allocated as subscription for The American Legion Weekly and 25 cents to the national organization. It also directed that in expenditures of national funds the relative importance of the Legion's activities should be considered in the order named as follows: Routine administration, rehabilitation, child welfare, Americanization, legislation, publicity and miscellaneous.

A budget for the National Rehabilitation Committee of twenty-five cents per Legion member was authorized, to be provided from such available funds as will be certain and sufficient for the work. It was directed that no other activities should be allowed to take precedence over rehabilitation. The National Executive Committee was empowered to establish a trust fund for the benefit of the rehabilitation program, the income from the fund only

to be expended. The committee was requested to prepare a prospectus of trust fund, inviting all Legionnaires and others to contribute to it, and to give other suitable publicity to the fund.

The convention also recommended that provision be made so that Legionnaires might voluntarily assign their benefits under the Adjusted Compensation Act to the trustee of the rehabilitation trust fund.

THE 1925 CONVENTION

OMAHA, NEBRASKA, became the 1925 convention city of The American Legion after a hard-fought battle with Fort Worth, Texas. The battle began while the earliest delegates were arriving in Saint Paul, lasted through a series of convention committee meetings and was decided only when the delegates, on a roll call by States, gave a majority vote in favor of Omaha. Omaha received 512 votes on the roll call and Fort Worth 440. The rivalry of the two cities was entirely good-natured, and immediately after the result of the roll call was announced Past National Commander Alvin Owsley of Texas proposed a resolution, which was adopted by the convention, making the selection of Omaha the unanimous vote of the convention. The Omaha convention will be held next October.

At the same time the delegates expressed their choice of next year's convention city, they voted to extend to the Department of France the privilege of making a definite proposal that the Legion hold its national convention in Paris in November, 1928, ten years after the signing of the Armistice. They also voted that pledges given to Philadelphia in the conventions of the two preceding years should stand and that the 1926 convention shall be held in Philadelphia.

The Department of Florida announced that it wants the 1927 national convention. Fort Worth also declared it would seek the convention for that year.

The battle between Fort Worth and Omaha interested the entire convention to an unusual degree. Both cities sent to Saint Paul large delegations. Each used literature, parade floats, bands and personal solicitation to bring before the delegates of all the States the advantages and merits upon which it based its claim for the honor.

When the Committee on Time and Place of Next Convention held a session on the second day of the convention a test vote showed that fifteen members of the committee favored Omaha and fourteen Fort Worth. Because not all States were represented at this meeting, the committee voted that the choice should be left to a roll call vote of the whole convention, each city to be given five minutes to present its claims. The committee reported that each city's hotel accommodations and other facilities were ample.

Leonard Withington and Past National Commander Owsley presented Fort Worth's invitation, while Mrs. May Peterson Thompson, of the Metropolitan Grand Opera Company, a native of Fort Worth and member of the Texas Department of the Auxiliary, who rode "the old gray mare" of the Texas Department's famous cowboy

band during the convention parade, sang from the platform.

Earl Kline, National Executive Committeeman for Nebraska, then voiced Omaha's invitation on behalf of Omaha Post, the largest American Legion post in the world. He declared that Omaha is approximately the center of Legion membership as well as the approximate geographical center of the United States, and that the highest cost of transportation, round trip, to any point in the United States would be \$64. Omaha has eighty-four hotels, he said, thirty-one of them rated as first class and five built within the last five years. He promised that every delegate, alternate and official of the Legion, the Auxiliary and the Forty and Eight would be assigned a room with bath in a first-class hotel. In addition to the 30,000 who could be cared for in the city's first-class hotels, Mr. Kline stated, 35,000 to 50,000 persons could be cared for in the city, and if necessary 8,000 Pullman cars could be parked in railroad yards within seven blocks of the municipal auditorium. The auditorium, he said, seats 7,500. In summing up, Mr. Kline displayed six certified checks totalling \$50,000, which had been presented to the Legion by the Board of Governors of Omaha's annual festival, the Ak-Sar-Ben. "More will be produced if more is needed," he declared.

The vote by States on Omaha and Fort Worth was as follows:

	OMAHA	FORT WORTH
Alabama	—	9
Arizona	—	10
Arkansas	13	—
California	—	31
Canal Zone	6	—
Colorado	11	—
Connecticut	—	14
Delaware	6	—
District of Columbia	1	8
Florida	—	14
France	3	3
Georgia	4	9
Hawaii	—	7
Idaho	10	—
Illinois	—	52
Indiana	21	—
Iowa	42	—
Kansas	21	—
Kentucky	2	11
Louisiana	—	10
Maine	—	12
Maryland	8	—
Massachusetts	30	9
Mexico	—	7
Michigan	26	—
Minnesota	15	15
Mississippi	—	9
Missouri	18	—
Montana	10	—
Nebraska	23	—
Nevada	—	7
New Hampshire	11	—
New Jersey	—	19
New Mexico	8	—
New York	74	—
North Carolina	1	14
North Dakota	14	—
Ohio	35	—
Oklahoma	—	21
Oregon	14	—
Pennsylvania	11	47
Philippine Islands	—	6
Rhode Island	9	—
South Carolina	—	10
South Dakota	18	—
Tennessee	—	15
Texas	—	18
Utah	8	—
Vermont	2	7
Virginia	—	13
Washington	18	—

West Virginia	11	—
Wisconsin	—	33
Wyoming	8	—
Totals	512	440

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

WITH but three candidates nominated, all of them pioneers in the Legion and men with the highest records of leadership and conspicuous accomplishments, the Sixth National Convention elected James A. Drain of Washington, D. C., national commander on the first ballot.

Mr. Drain received 715 votes of 974 possible, and his election was made unanimous on motion of E. E. Spafford, Past Commander of the Department of New York, one of the other nominees, seconded by John R. McQuigg of Ohio, the third nominee.

All but nine States cast their solid voting strength for Mr. Drain, although twenty-one delegates were absent. Maryland gave two of its eight votes to Mr. McQuigg, who also received twenty-three votes from Nebraska, thirty-five from Ohio, fifty-eight from Pennsylvania, six from the Philippine Islands and eighteen of South Dakota's twenty-eight votes. Missouri cast all its eighteen votes for Mr. Spafford. Mr. Spafford also received New York's entire vote of seventy-four and four of New Jersey's nineteen votes.

Mr. Drain was placed in nomination by Stafford King, Adjutant of the Department of Minnesota, after Alabama had yielded to Minnesota on the roll call.

After Arizona had yielded to Kentucky, Peyton H. Hoge, Jr., National Executive Committeeman from Kentucky, seconded Mr. Drain's nomination.

Donald Strachan of New York nominated Mr. Spafford and Ralph Ewing made the nomination speech in behalf of Mr. McQuigg.

Immediately after Mr. Drain's election had been made unanimous he was carried to the platform by shouting delegates, and while the standards of the departments were all about him the whole convention took part in a demonstration of singing and cheering which lasted ten minutes.

With the same expedition which characterized the election of Mr. Drain as National Commander, the convention elected the five National Vice-Commanders for the coming year and the new National Chaplain. But five nominations were made for the former offices, and on motion by Frank Warner of Nebraska the rules were suspended and the entire vote of the convention was cast for the five nominees. The newly-elected Vice-Commanders are: Peyton Hoge, Jr., of Kentucky; Eugene Armstrong, of Connecticut; Frank MacFarland, of Kansas; A. L. Perry, of Panama, and William Stern, of North Dakota.

Two nominations were made for the office of National Chaplain, those of Reverend Father Joseph Lonergan, past department chaplain of Illinois, and Reverend Stewart I. Long of Richmond, Indiana. After the vote on the roll call had been started, the Indiana department withdrew the nomination of Mr. Long and moved that the election of Father Lonergan be made unanimous. The motion was adopted unanimously.

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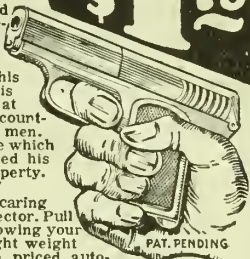
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tive Committee held immediately after the convention adjourned, National Commander Drain announced that National Adjutant Russell G. Creviston would continue to serve. Robert H. Tyndall, of Indianapolis, was also continued as National Treasurer, and Robert A. Adams of Indianapolis as National Judge Advocate. Commander Drain also announced that all the executive heads of the principal national standing committees would also be continued in their positions.

TROPHIES

THE Florida department easily held the place of honor among all the departments for its 1924 membership achievements, and the large delegation it sent to Saint Paul had the pleasure of seeing the department officials receive on the convention platform two of the national silver cups awarded each year in general membership competition. Florida won both the Hanford MacNider Trophy, awarded annually to the department having the highest percentage of members thirty days prior to the convention as compared with its membership on Dec 31st of the preceding year, and the Henry D. Lindsley Trophy, awarded annually to the department which has gained the greatest percentage of membership over its preceding year's membership by March 1st.

Florida came to the national convention at Saint Paul with the largest membership in its history—151.5 percent of its 1923 membership. Twenty-two other departments also came to Saint Paul with greater memberships than they had had in the year preceding. Each of them was awarded a badge of merit to be attached to the department standard. The percentages of increase for the additional departments were as follows:

Connecticut ...	135.0	Pennsylvania ..	105.9
Nevada	127.7	Michigan	105.7
Mexico	121.9	Rhode Island...	104.9
Wisconsin	115.1	Hawaii	104.2
Virginia	115.0	South Carolina...	103.9
New York.....	114.6	Minnesota	103.9
New Mexico....	113.8	Nebraska	101.8
Oregon	112.1	Colorado	101.5
Massachusetts..	108.7	Canal Zone.....	101.1
Tennessee	107.1	Wyoming	100.3
South Dakota..	100.1		

National Commander Quinn announced that the Department of Washington also had exceeded its 1923 membership by 960 members, but that its returns had been received too late to entitle it to share in the awards.

In presenting the MacNider Trophy to the Department of Florida, Commander Quinn paid a tribute to Mrs. Howard Rowton, wife of the department adjutant, who has been her husband's active assistant during the year. The band of Harvey W. Seeds Post of Miami played during the presentation ceremonies.

South Dakota won the Franklin D'Olier Trophy, presented annually by the Department of Pennsylvania to that department having enrolled the highest percentage of the eligible service men of its state. In presenting the D'Olier cup Commander Quinn said:

"I think that the best answer to the oft repeated statement that it is difficult to keep up the membership of a

department where the general financial conditions are bad is the record of the department of South Dakota. Forty out of the 200 posts of South Dakota lost all their funds in bank failures. Despite that, the department of South Dakota comes here not only with a greater number of members than it had in the entire year of 1923, but comes here leading all the departments in highest potential membership."

The Department of Mexico had the honor of winning the trophy offered by the Department of North Carolina for that one of the departments outside the continental limits of the United States which should obtain the highest percentage of membership over its preceding year's membership. This cup was presented at Saint Paul for the first time.

In addition to winning two of the main national membership trophies, the Department of Florida won the Frederick W. Galbraith, Jr., Trophy awarded to the department outside a zone of one hundred miles from the convention city which makes the highest record for man-miles of travel to the convention. To obtain the bases for comparison in making this award the total number of miles traveled by all delegates of the departments competing were added. It was announced from the platform that the Department of California probably could have been able to enter the winning claim for the Galbraith Trophy, but that it had not filed its report within the time limit specified by the contest rules.

More bands and drum corps took part in the musical competitions at Saint Paul than ever assembled for any preceding convention, and the numbers of members of each organization and the quality of performances set remarkable standards of excellence in the opinions of the judges. All bands and drum corps were first judged during the national parade, and those rated highest played in the final contests held at the Minnesota state fair grounds in the presence of an enormous crowd on Wednesday evening of convention week.

The first place in the band contest was won by Monahan Post Band of Sioux City, Iowa, which thus received the first prize award of \$1,000 in cash. Second place, carrying with it a cash prize of \$500, was won by Wichita (Kansas) Post Band. Cedar Falls (Iowa) Post won third place and a cash prize of \$250. Fourth and fifth prizes, certificates for assortments of musical instruments, were won respectively by Cass County Post Band of Logansport, Indiana, and John E. Miller Post Band of Beaver Dam, Wisconsin. Bands which won honorable mention represented Erk Cottrell Post, Greenville, Ohio; Lorenz Post, Mankato, Minnesota; Kenosha (Wisconsin) Post, and Milwaukee (Wisconsin) Post.

Racine (Wisconsin) Post's drum corps won first prize of \$750 in the drum corps competition. Second place, with a prize of \$300, was won by Omaha (Nebraska) Post, and the third prize of \$200 went to Major A. M. Trier Post Drum Corps of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. A fourth prize was won by Walter R. Craig Post of Rockford, Illinois, and fifth prize by Kankakee (Illinois) Post.

The fife and drum corps of Saint Paul Post, which did not formally compete because it represented the convention city, received honorable mention, which also was given Logan (Utah)

Post, Claussen-Worden Post of Mason City, Iowa, and Earl Faulkner Post of Everett, Washington.

The Milton J. Foreman Trophy, awarded to the team winning the national rifle contest, held during the convention week, was won by a team representing the Department of Minnesota. Second place was won by a team of the Third Infantry, from Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Third place went to the team representing Neenah (Wisconsin) Post.

The standing of contestants in the trap shooting events were as follows: 1, Roy T. Holman, Minnesota; 2, F. B. Bishop, South Dakota; 3, H. H. Ford, Jr., California; 4, O. B. Emshwiller, Minnesota; 5, Major Ray Miller, Minnesota; 6, Dr. Arthur Van Dyke, Minnesota; 7, B. H. Conner, France.

The 40 and 8 Has Come to Stay

(Continued from page 16)

mously. The interest from the fund already raised will be used this year to further the child welfare program as dictated by the triple alliance of the Legion, the Auxiliary and La Société.

Following the resolutions adopted by each of the three conventions the society named nine members to sit with nine from each of the affiliated organizations. This committee consists of George Dobson of New Jersey, newly elected Chef de Chemin de Fer; Robert J. Murphy, Iowa; E. E. Barker, Kansas; George L. Berry, Tennessee; M. M. Murray, Michigan; Herb J. Michaels, Ohio; N. Carl Nielsen, Washington, Commissaire Intendant; George Plant, Wisconsin, and A. H. Gansser, Michigan.

The new Chef de Chemin de Fer, George Dobson, is a resident of Passaic, New Jersey. He is an old-timer in the Forty and Eight, having been Chef of his local voiture, Chef of the Grand Voiture of New Jersey, and Commissaire Nationale for the past two years. Sous Chefs de Chemin de Fer were elected as follows: Stanley M. Doyle, Montana; Robert B. Turner, Missouri; Milt B. Campbell, Ohio, and E. Ingram, California. N. Carl Nielsen of Washington was chosen Commissaire Intendant. The office of Conducteur Nationale went to Marcus L. Evans, Nebraska. The new Gardes de Porte Nationaux are Edward S. Kornman, Maryland, and J. G. Allard, Nevada. Charlton Lyons of Louisiana is Avocat Nationale.

The promenade abolished the office of Auditeur Nationale. C. W. Audrey of Washington, who held that office during the past year, was appointed Correspondent Nationale with headquarters in Indianapolis.

The executive committee of the Cheminot Nationaux is Frank M. Kee, Illinois; Ralph Lloyd Jones, Iowa, and S. C. Crockett, Alabama.

THE cover of this issue, the work of Herman J. Berlowitz, was tied for second place in a competition open to vocational trainees of the Society of illustrators' School for Disabled Soldiers in New York City. The design which won first prize and that which tied with Mr. Berlowitz's work have been used as covers of earlier issues of the Weekly.

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